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ZUHAYR MUHSIN POSTS ASSIGNED TO FOUR SUCCESSORS

NC030655 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 3 Aug 79 NC

[Text] The four posts occupied by the late Zuhayr Muhsin, the leader of the As-Sa'iqah organization and head of the PLO Military Department, have been assigned to four persons.

Sami al-'Attari has been appointed secretary general of the As-Sa'iqah organization; Airman Mahmud 'Azzam, As-Sa'iqah's representative at the PLO Executive Committee; Col Salah al-Mu'ani, chief of the As-Sa'iqah military department; and Majid Muhsin, secretary of the As-Sa'iqah organization in Lebanon.

RADIO COMMENTATOR NOTES 'TRADITION OF FAILURE' IN U.S. POLICY

JN021938 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1145 GMT 2 Aug 79 JN

["Political Commentator's" commentary]

[Text] Political circles have taken an interest in President Carter's statements carried by the U.S. newspaper the New York TIMES stressing his rejection of the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. Carter alleges that this state would constitute an unstable factor in the region, and also says that many Arab states share his position.

The political commentator at the radio station comments on the subject saying: The statements carried by the New York TIMES come as part of a well-planned and studied U.S. attack against the Palestinian obstacle, which stands in the way of the U.S.-Zionist-As-Sadat scheme, in order to exterminate it.

This is what the Zionist enemy has been trying to achieve by his continuous war against the Palestinians in Lebanon, or by circumventing the obstacle through the creation of new alternatives to Palestinian representation and rights, or by dealing with obedient alternatives, who will agree to the U.S. schemes that distort Palestinian rights.

This latter part of the U.S. scheme has been unveiled by Robert Strauss, who said that the U.S. Administration will see to it that moderate Palestinians participate in the autonomy talks. He insinuates that these moderates, whom he does not identify, because they do not exist, are afraid to participate in the negotiations. He further insinuates that the United States is working and will work to eliminate this fear.

If we recall the U.S. scenario on the Palestinians, we would not discover any deviation from the U.S. position on the Palestinian people and their issue in Carter's and Strauss' statements. The attempts to create obedient Palestinian alternatives as representatives and meager alternatives for Palestinian rights are an established tradition in U.S. policy as has been manifested by various U.S. administrations that have been trying to impose a settlement in the Middle East for a long time.

What grips the attention in this U.S. political tradition to create alternatives is the persistence to follow up this attempt despite the absolute failure it has harvested. Who does not recall that the policy of finding Palestinian alternatives for the PLO has not achieved any worthwhile success, either by granting King Husayn a prominent role during various stages of representing the Palestinian people or by agents, who are fabricated by the U.S. imagination and schemes?

The political fact that has crystalized following each U.S. onslaught to create alternatives is that the PLO's role as the Palestinians sole representative and spokesman on all levels and forums has been renewed and confirmed.

The PLO has closely watched the U.S. delegates international and secret movements inside and outside the occupied territories. The PLO has been well-informed about what these delegates have said and proposed by polishing and glossing over the Camp David accords in order to attract Palestinian supporters. The PLO has also been aware of the answers these delegates have received and which can be summarized in one sentence: The PLO is the only legitimate representative of our people and no individual or organization has the right to speak about the Palestinian issue or negotiate on behalf of the Palestinian people.

The attempt to find alternatives either through continuous efforts or by distorting the crux of the Palestinian issue has become an integral part of established traditional U.S. policy on the Palestinian issue. This attempt has become part of a tradition of failure. It will not achieve success in the future due to the steadfastness of the Palestinian stand and the Palestinian people's adherence to their national leader, the PLO. The Palestinians have been subjected to temptations over a long period of time so as to be dragged into the farce of liquidating their issue with their own hands, but they have been steadfast and refrained from these attempts. They have been able to stress their firm stand--which is based on a solid and just foundation--that the following legitimate national rights can never be interpreted or belittled: the Palestinians' rights to return to their homeland, determine their future and to establish their independent state. These Palestinians who have been steadfast and who adhered to their national position under severe conditions, which tried to impose a fait accompli on them, will be more steadfast. They have a wide front of allies and friends who adopt the same national position and who struggle with them to achieve their legitimate and just rights.

PLO SPOKESMAN NAJI SAYS U.S. HAS BEGUN 'INDIRECT DIALOG' WITH PLO

JN021132 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 2 Aug 79 pp 17, 18 JN

[Text] PLO Executive Committee member Talal Naji has said that the United States has begun an indirect dialog with the PLO through other parties, particularly West European parties.

Naji told AD-DUSTUR that the Palestinian stand in any dialog is quite clear and is based on the fact that any acceptable solution must insure our Palestinian Arab people's national inalienable rights, foremost of which is their right to return to their homeland, to determine their future and to establish their national entity on their Palestinian soil.

Naji, who is attending the Jordanian-Palestinian Committee meetings in Amman, stressed that this is our stand and the criterion for our relations with any country that wants to open a dialog with us.

Naji pointed out that the United States was prompted to seek a dialog with the PLO by its realization that it had reached an impasse concerning implementation of the Palestinian aspects of the Camp David agreements, meaning the autonomy plot. The United States realized through its envoys that the Palestinian people reject this agreement and will firmly confront it. Consequently, world and Arab public opinion also refuses to allow the people's destiny to be determined at Camp David through parties who appointed themselves custodians of the Palestinian people.

The world has recognized the Palestinian people's independent national character and political entity, through the UN recognition of the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative. For this reason the United States is trying to do some cosmetic work on this part of the Camp David agreement by seeking an indirect dialog with the PLO.

In reply to a question about the most serious danger facing our people in the occupied land and the effects of the Arab and Palestinian situation on their steadfastness, Naji said: The most serious danger facing our people in the occupied land is the autonomy plot that they are trying to impose on our people, in order to consolidate the occupation. He said that the Camp David parties are exerting various kinds of pressure in order to peddle the autonomy plot. We must work seriously to foil the plot by insuring the means of steadfastness. I can say that the Camp David parties have failed thus far to find Palestinian elements with which to constitute a cover in implementing the plot.

In reply to a question about the effects of Arab support on our people's steadfastness in the occupied land, Naji said: On the Arab level, I cannot say as yet that the Arab countries have offered as much as they can or have used all their political, economic or manpower weapons to confront the plot, despite the positive results of the ninth summit conference in Baghdad. The Baghdad summit constitutes a unified Arab stand before world public opinion. In addition to the political stand, the Baghdad resolutions insured a minimal limit in use of the required resources to support the confrontation states. Naji, assistant secretary general of the PFLP-general command, said that most Arab countries have committed themselves to implementing these resolutions on both the political and financial levels. We hope that the other Arab countries that have not paid their committed amounts will do so.

In reply to a question on the need to go beyond the stage of minimal limits represented by the Baghdad summit and on the use of our nation's resources, Naji said: Despite the positive aspects of the Baghdad summit, I believe that serious confrontation with that which is being done against us in the area by the Arab nation's enemies requires more than the Baghdad resolutions. Naji pointed out that what he specifically means is the use of the vital and important oil weapon, not as a tool of blackmail as hostile Western media say, but in a way that will serve the national [wataniyah] and pan-Arab [qawmiyah] aims. This is because it is illogical and unacceptable to provide the United States with its life's blood at a time when it persists in ignoring the Palestinian people and in giving all forms of material, military and political support to Israel, so that it can continue its occupation of our land, its plunder of our wealth and its displacement of our people from our occupied homeland, from which it chases them in order to devastate them. Naji pointed out that there is another important weapon, the Arab countries' huge credits in U. S. and European banks.

Naji stressed the importance of adhering to the stand that rejects the Camp David agreements and the separate peace treaty between Egypt and Israel and of continuing the isolation of the Egyptian regime, which seriously wounded the Arab nation.

On the situation in Lebanon and the Palestinian revolution's current status there, Naji said: The Palestinian revolution in Lebanon is facing a fierce onslaught aimed at annihilating the Palestinian people and liquidating their cause. The onslaught is represented in the brutal raids that the Zionist enemy has been launching against our people in Lebanon for several months, using the most sophisticated U. S. arms. We must also stress here the rightist groups' role in collaboration with the enemy, who uses them as a pawn and a cover for his aims and plans.

In conclusion, Naji praised the importance of the Joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee's role in strengthening the steadfastness of our people in the occupied land,so that they can stand up to hostile plans.

NAJI DENIES DIFFERENCES IN JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN COMMITTEE

JN020944 Amman AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 2 Aug 79 pp 1, 13 JN

[Excerpt] Talal Naji, member of the Palestinian delegation to the Jordanian-Palestinian Committee in support of our people's stadfastness in the occupied territories, has stressed that there are absolutely no differences between the Jordanian and Palestinian views on support of the people's steadfastness. He said: The committee's work is successful. Every day we make progress, with both sides exerting efforts to foil the autonomy plot.

Naji, deputy commander of the PFLP-General Command, added: Our mission falls within the Higher Joint Committee's framework for supporting our people's steadfastness in the occupied land. As is known, this committee is one of the results of the Baghdad summit conference. Its purpose is to coordinate Jordanian-Palestinian efforts to insure the steadfastness of our people in the occupied land and to enable them to reject the autonomy plot, which the enemy, in cooperation with the Egyptian regime and the United States, is trying to carry out. In my view, the autonomy plot is aimed against the Palestine question.

Naji said: We are meeting to discuss our people's affairs, sufferings and problems and are jointly exerting the greatest efforts to support their steadfastness.

Naji said that the Arab countries have paid the commitments they endorsed at the Baghdad summit conference except for two, which we hope will do so as soon as possible.

Naji said: A joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation is scheduled to continue the tour it began in the last few weeks shortly, in order to insure implementation of the Baghdad resolutions. The delegation includes Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah and Fatah Central Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas.

Concerning amendment of Resolution 242, Naji said: Rumors about the PLO stand on amendment of the resolution are not true. The PLO's stand on this matter is clear, as defined by the National Council resolutions and the PLO charter.

Naji said: Our stand toward any international move is based on complete recognition of our inalienable rights, as approved by the world community through its organizations, primarily the United Nations. Foremost of these rights is the right to return to the homeland, to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on our national soil. He continued by saying: For this reason we hold that moves in the United States or in the Western European countries will be rejected if they stem from Resolution 242 or the Camp David agreements.

Naji said: We have absolutely no confidence in U. S. policy. We feel doubt and suspicion of any U. S. moves or any moves the United States recommends to countries linked to it, specifically Western European countries.

KUWAIT

REACTIONS TO U.S. STAND ON RESOLUTION 242 REPORTED

JN021537 Doha QNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 2 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 2 August--Today the Kuwaiti paper AS-SIYASAH reports that a number of Arab capitals have recently requested from the U.S. ambassadors there, explanations for the U.S. stand, which opposes any amendment of UN Security Council Resolution 242, especially that which relates to the Palestinian issue and the Palestinian people's legitimate right to return to their homeland.

The paper quotes Arab diplomatic sources who expressed their astonishment at the new U.S. inclinations.

The paper states that this stand is presently incompatible with the efforts to establish a comprehensive peace in the region.

The paper also quotes an ambassador of a West European country as saying that his country does not approve of this U.S. inclination and affirms that his country's policy is based on the Palestinian people's right to determine their fate and the need to achieve a just settlement for the Palestinian issue, guaranteeing the sovereignty and independence of all the region's states and their rights to live in peace within safe and recognized borders.

The European ambassador, whose name was not disclosed by the paper, stated that European efforts to find a new formula to establish peace in the region also aim at bringing about an amendment to Resolution 242 in order to render it compatible with recent developments.

AL-QABAS VIEWS PRESIDENT CARTER'S MIDEAST POLICY

ID020948 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0710 GMT 2 Aug 79 ID

[Text] Kuwait--In today's editorial AL-QABAS describes President Carter's claim that some Arab countries do not approve the setting-up of a Palestinian state as a claim which can be justified only by the attempts of U.S. policy to relinquish its commitments and to put the responsibility for its failure on others.

The paper adds that it would have been more appropriate for the President to admit that his policy, with which he has linked his presidential future, has not brought the results he had expected and that the Camp David style has succeeded only in isolating Egypt from the Arab and Islamic world, but it has failed in achieving comprehensive peace.

The paper adds: Perhaps the fact that the United States has turned toward Europe for help in overcoming the Camp David stage by laying down a new American-European plan which will set in motion efforts for the resumption of the peace negotiations, is yet another proof of the great wrong the Carter administration has done to peace in the region.

KUWAIT, FRANCE SEEK TO HEAL EEC-ARAB RELATIONS

ID021454 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1325 GMT 2 Aug 79 ID

[Text] Paris--It has been stated by diplomatic sources here today that Kuwait and France are at present engaged in an initiative which is bound to bring about rapprochement between the Arab and West European countries.

The sources add that the idea of the Arab-European dialog was inspired by a letter which the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, sent to French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing last May when the president was EEC chairman. It was reported that in the letter, which was delivered by Kuwaiti Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah, was a request to France to embark on an initiative which would result in full European support for the Arab countries.

The sources add that in return Kuwait undertook to guarantee the flow of Arab oil to Europe, or not to cut off oil in a major way from Europe. In addition, it raised the idea of studying the signing of a long-term agreement covering the quantity of oil to be supplied to the Western countries and the price of this oil. The same sources add that Kuwait had obtained the preliminary agreement of the other gulf states, and specially the United Arab Emirates [UAE] and Qatar. President [Giscard] d'Estaing, the sources add, discussed the proposal with the UAE president when he stopped in Abu Dhabi on his way to the French islands in the Pacific. The UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi, visited Kuwait and other gulf countries last week and had talks with officials there in connection, it is believed, with the outcome of the talks between President d'Estaing and Shaykh Zayid.

President Giscard intends to tour the gulf states in the spring. It has been reported that the aim of the visit is to lay the foundation for special relations between the EEC and the Arab oil-producing countries.

A French Presidency adviser said that the European countries were looking forward to reaching a long-term agreement which insures the flow of Arab oil so as to limit market changes which have been caused by the U.S. failure to stop the increase in its consumption and in view of the instability of the U.S. dollar.

The same official said that the gulf Arab states are also looking forward to a method which is not affected by inflation (?regarding) the exports of their oil to the Western states and obtaining equipment and technology from these states in return. He added that the long-term agreements would be in the interest of both sides.

Another French source said that political factors were playing a role in this rapproach-ement which comes at a time when the Arab states have embarked on an effort to obtain military and diplomatic support from sources other than the United States, which has become party to the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty which has been categorically rejected by the Arab states.

PAPER REPORTS FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT UK

ID030854 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0712 GMT 3 Aug 79 ID

[Text] Kuwait--A Kuwaiti paper today reports that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of Kuwait, will be visiting Britain before attending the nonalined countries summit conference to be held in Havana at the beginning of next month.

It goes on to add that Shaykh as-Sabah will be holding talks with British officials about a number of current Arab and international issues in addition to bilateral relations. It attributes to informed diplomatic sources the statement that the talks will deal with Britain's role within the European Community in finding a formula to solve the Arab-Israeli dispute and the Palestinian question on the basis of recognizing the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. The sources have not excluded the possibility that Shaykh as-Sabah will pay a similar visit to Paris (?during the same trip) to discuss a number of outstanding issues connected with the development of the Arab situation, Arab-European cooperation and oil relations between Kuwait and France.

PAPER ON EGYPTIAN DEFENSE MINISTER'S VISIT TO ISRAEL

ID021355 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 31 Jul 79 p 1 ID

[Editorial: "General 'Ali Inspects Israel's Security"]

[Excerpts] Egyptian Defense Minister Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali is being showered with kisses by Tel Aviv women. After the first session of his meeting with Weizman, it was reported that they discussed the strengthening of "ties between the Egyptian army and the Israeli army" and that hot lines will be set up between commanders on both sides and not just between the two ministers and the two chiefs of staff. Since matters have gone this far and the alliance between the Egyptian regime and Israel has reached the stage of military coordination, it is not unlikely that the two sides will conclude a joint defense pact to replace Egypt's annulled joint defense pact with the Arab countries.

Yesterday the Egyptian general reconnoiterd the terrain of the West Bank territories so that he can discuss what sort of danger it constitutes to Israeli security.

Therefore, as far as the general is concerned, it is a question not so much of Israeli occupation as of insuring Israeli security. The same thing goes for Sinai, the return of which in a demilitarized condition to Egyptian "sovereignty" was approved by the general.

If General Weizman can convince his friend General 'Ali of the importance of Israeli military positions on the West Bank, then Israel's continued occupation might become an excuse for As-Sadat.

The effective Arab parties are watching and not moving a limb. If they are moving at all, then they are moving backward. The Palestinian resistence is being burdened with the sin of Arab reality so that it will say "yes" when it should say "no."

Thanks to this rotten situation the general is able to walk about on Tel Aviv streets and receive the kisses of Zionist female soldiers, and As-Sadat's radio and press have become yet another one of Tel Aviv's mouthpieces that seek and throw light on weaknesses in Arab reality. Meanwhile, the Israeli-U.S. cancer is attacking the structures of the Egyptian organs.

As for the steadfastness countries, it is enough for them to stick to this tactical steadfastness--it alone will drive them into the abyss. Maybe this will be the only salvation.

OMAN

SULTAN DISCUSSES SOVIET INFLUENCE, U.S. RELATIONS

JN021931 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1830 GMT 2 Aug 79 JN

[Text] New York, 2 August--Sultan Qabus of Oman has expressed concern over the increasing weakness of U.S. will vis-a-vis Soviet challenges. He said that this is bound to encourage the Soviet Union to exceed its limits in the area despite the policy of detente.

In an interview published today by the WALL STREET JOURNAL, Sultan Qabus said: I believe that it is incumbent on the United States to use its political influence in order to persuade the Soviet Union to stop playing with fire.

He added that the Americans and Soviets should have expanded their SALT talks to cover various political differences between the Eastern bloc and that of the free world.

On relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the United States, Sultan Qabus expressed his deep hope that the United States will hasten to expand the size of its military aid to Oman. He said: We are in dire need of U.S. defensive weapons to enhance our armed forces' capabilities.

PDRY

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON SOCIALIST PARTY VISIT TO VIETNAM

For the Hanoi VNA text of the joint communique issued by the Communist Party of Vietnam and the Yemeni Socialist Party after the latter's visit to Vietnam on 24-31 July, see the 3 August Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT.

SAUDI ARABIA

SNA REPORTS TALKS ON CLOSURE OF OIL PIPELINE

ID021334 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1015 GMT 2 Aug 79 ID

[Excerpt] At-Ta'if--Talks between the kingdom and the Tapline Company are being held at present about finally shutting down the line after its finances have been shaken in recent years.

It has been learned that the company which owns the line has shouldered very heavy losses in recent years which reached $40 million annually because of the small bore of the pipe and the suspension over some years of the pumping of Saudi oil and its exports through Az-Zahrani port in Lebanon.

YAR

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES SUDANESE OFFICIAL

JN021749 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 2 Aug 79 JN

[Text] At noon today Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani received Dr Hasan at-Turabi, assistant secretary general of the Sudanese Socialist Union for information and foreign affairs [title as heard], who is currently visiting the republic. The talks during the meeting centered on bilateral relations and Arab and international issues.

The meeting was attended by the prime minister's adviser for information and culture and the Sudanese charge d'affaires in San'a'.

AL-AHRAM REPORTS INVITATION TO TRIPARTITE MEETING

NC030727 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0648 GMT 3 Aug 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 3 August--AL-AHRAM reports today that Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil yesterday received an invitation from the U. S. Government to send a high-ranking Egyptian official to attend the proposed tripartite meeting in Washington to discuss the question of replacing the UN Emergency Forces with the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization [UNTSO] to supervise the withdrawal from Sinai.

The paper adds that a responsible source has stated that the Egyptian Government is considering the invitation, which proposes that the meeting be held 13 - 15 August, despite engagements of the officials during this period, and that it will decide whether it would be possible to hold the meeting on the date proposed by the U. S. Government or whether it would ask that it be postponed until late August or early September.

Reply Pending

NC021900 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1825 GMT 2 Aug 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 2 August--MENA has learned that Egypt will adopt a final decision on the question of its participation in the tripartite meeting which the United States has called in Washington among Egypt, the United States and Israel, after the return of Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil and his delegation from Israel in the light of his contacts there.

It is known that the tripartite meeting will discuss the problems related to the termination of the UN Emergency Forces mandate in Sinai and their replacement with the UN Truce Supervision Organization [UNTSO]. In the light of the results of these contacts, Egypt will determine its stand regarding its participation and will decide who will represent it at the meeting.

MENA has learned that Egypt has not yet received an official invitation from the United States to the meeting, although it has been the subject of contacts and discussion. Should an agreement be reached on the tripartite meeting, it will probably be convened before 23 August.

The discussions at the meeting are expected to deal with the Palestinian question, international efforts for seeking a new resolution or an amendment to Resolution 242 affirming the political rights of the Palestinians to replace the reference to repatriation of refugees.

[Text] A responsible source in the Foreign Ministry has stated that the tripartite meeting called for by the United States is expected to be held during the second week of this month. The source added that the Arab Republic of Egypt has made no final decision yet on attending this meeting, which aims at discussing the question of the UN forces in Sinai. Egypt will make such a decision following the talks prime minister Dr Mustafa Khalil will hold with Israel officials in Haifa.

Meanwhile, Foreign Ministry sources have welcomed the remarks which were made by U.S. President Carter regarding Palestinian autonomy and the Palestinians' participation in the autonomy talks. The Foreign Ministry sources described President Carter's remarks as a positive step.

The sources said that Egypt is receiving reports on what is happening in the United Nations from the Egyptian permanent representative there. Moreover, Egypt welcomes the postponment of the Security Council meeting that will discuss the inalienable rights of the Palestinians, because this postponment will provide an opportunity for further contacts among the parties concerned.

KHALIL TO HEAD FIFTH ROUND OF AUTONOMY NEGOTIATIONS

NC021800 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1655 GMT 2 Aug 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 2 August--Dr Mustafa Khalil, prime minister and foreign minister, will leave for Haifa this coming Sunday at the head of the Egyptian delegation to the fifth round of autonomy negotiations. The negotiations will be held in Haifa 5-7 August.

The delegation includes Defense and War Production Minister Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, Maj Gen Labib Sharab, a group of assistants, including Ambassadors 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif and Mamduh 'Abd ar-Raqiz and advisers Sayyid al-Masri and Sayyid 'Ali.

MENA has learned that four sessions will be held during the fifth round of negotiations, the first after the brakfast on Sunday. Two meetings will be held on Monday, one in the morning and the other in the afternoon. The final session will be held Tuesday morning after which the Egyptian delegation will return to Cairo.

MENA has learned that prior to the first session, a meeting will be held between Dr Mustafa Khalil and the head of the Israeli delegation, Yosef Burg.

MENA has also learned that the fifth round of autonomy negotiations, in addition to being aimed at maintaining the momentum of the peace negotiations for achieving self-rule for the Palestinian people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, will deal with problems connected with the elections and the proposed Palestinian authority in light of the results of the meetings of the two subcommittees which convened at the ambassadorial level in Alexandria this week.

In connection with the autonomy elections for the Palestinians, MENA has learned that Egypt adheres to its position that the elections should be held under international supervision so that the Palestinian people will be assured of their validity. The Egyptian and the U.S. stands are identical in this respect. Egypt also affirms that the Palestinians in Arab Jerusalem should participate in these elections since Arab Jerusalem is an indivisible part of the West Bank.

While calling for the reunion of Palestinian families, Egypt affirms the right of evacuees to take part in these elections.

As for the powers and jurisdictions of the Palestinian authority, in accordance with the outcome of the two subcommittees meetings in Alexandria, MENA has learned that there are sweeping differences over and a big gap between the Egyptian and the Israeli viewpoints on the subject. While Egypt believes that the Palestinian authority must have legislative, executive and judicial powers to be a nucleus of a Palestinian government, Israel believes that the powers must be limited to administrative affairs.

Meanwhile, MENA has learned that Dr Butrus Ghali during his stay in Israel will meet with Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan. Dayan withdrew from the Israeli delegation following the previous round of negotiations.

MENA has learned that the foreign ministers of the two countries will discuss affairs connected with the normalization of relations and related problems, particularly those of the open borders. The discussions will also deal with the UN Emergency Forces in Sinai and replacing these forces with the UN Truce Supervision Organization.

BUTRUS GHALI DESIRES AUTONOMY SOLUTION BY NEXT YEAR

TA021254 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 2 Aug 79 TA

[Text] Butrus Ghali declared that, if by the beginning of next year the autonomy talks do not supply a satisfactory solution, his country will adopt a new strategy toward Israel. In an interview in the Parisian paper LE MATIN, the Egyptian acting foreign minister says that the formula that enabled Israel's withdrawal from the Sinai must also facilitate the withdrawal of the enemy's forces from Falastin. Egypt, he added, strives to force Israel to withdraw from the territories and recognize the right of the Palestinian people to Falastin.

SPECIAL COURT HOLDS SECOND SESSION OF PLOTTERS' TRIAL

JN021800 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1751 GMT 2 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 2 August--The Special Court trying those accused of the crime of conspiracy and betraying the party and revolution resumed its session in Baghdad today.

During its second session the court tried a number of the accused whose cases were referred to the court by the special investigating commission.

The special court held its first session yesterday when a group of conspirators were put on trial. The court will continue its trial of the gang of conspirators and traitors during the coming days so that they will receive their just punishment.

AS-SADAT REGIME ACCUSED OF PLANNING TERRORIST ACTS

JN310821 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 31 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 31 July--The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH has warned that traitor As-Sadat will not hesitate to perform the role of the Zionists' policeman and carry out liquidation operations against the Palestinian resistance and the nationalist and progressive Arab forces.

Commenting on the secret meeting recently held among representatives of the Zionists, As-Sadat and U.S. intelligence services, ATH-THAWRAH says in its commentary that joint criminal and terrorist acts will be carried out by the Zionist-As-Sadat-U.S. alliance in support of the agent regimes linked with this alliance, such as the Sultanate of Oman, the Numayri regime and agent Haddad, and in order to encircle and strike at the nationalist and patriotic forces.

The paper calls for a confrontation with this alliance and plot through joint Arab action, based on Arab unanimity and on the positive measures that were approved by the Arab foreign and economy ministers' conference held in Baghdad as a foundation for a comprehensive and practical plan by which to topple As-Sadat and to foil the imperialist design and contain its treasonous practices.

PALESTINIAN LIBERATION FRONT OFFICIAL ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD

JN021823 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1746 GMT 2 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 2 August--A Palestinian delegation led by Abu al-'Abbas, deputy secretary general of the Palestinian Liberation Front, arrived in Baghdad this evening on a visit to Iraq that will last several days.

Abu al-'Abbas said that the delegation will hold meetings with officials of the Palestine and Armed Struggle Bureau of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command. The talks will be held within the framework of close and continuing relations to exchange views so as to achieve the common goal of liberating the Palestinians and occupied territories.

Abu al-'Abbas said: Our meetings with our comrades from the Ba'th Party confirm our joint determination to continue the struggle in order to achieve the Arab nation's goals.

He said that the recent conspiracy in fraternal Iraq was aimed at fragmenting the home front and undermining its steadfastness and effectiveness in the face of alliances and schemes that are hostile to the aspirations of our masses and our nation and only serve the enemy.

PRESS COMMENTS ON INFLATION, CARTER'S ENERGY PROGRAM

JN021520 Baghdad INA in English 1415 GMT 2 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad--The newspaper, AL-JUMHURIYAH, said that the future of world economy is threatened due to the non-stability of the international market.

Commenting today on the decline of the dollar and its impact on the OPEC oil prices, the paper called upon the oil-consuming industrial states to abandon their stubborn concepts and sit to the negotiation table with the oil-exporting states to save the world economy from the danger of complete destruction.

AL-JUMHURIYAH blamed the capitalist states, headed by USA, of being responsible for the international inflation, the decline of dollar value and the failure to achieve a just international economic order that serves the prerequisites of our present times and the future.

Tackling the same topic, ATH-THAWRAH, organ of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, [ASBP] said Thursday that the colossal sum allocated by U.S. President Carter to finance his energy programme shall only be accumulated at the expense of OPEC states.

This sume shall be accumulated from the exploitation of the difference of the double-price of the crude oil, the decline of the dollar value, the eating-up of the purchasing power of the Third World states and the insistence by the U.S. administration to keep the inflation average above 10 percent, the paper added.

The implementation of the new energy programme necessitates the importation of more crude oil for the maintenance and commissioning of machinery and equipment and the establishment of new projects, ATH THAWRAH further said.

In conclusion, ASBP organ confirmed that the revised energy programme is nothing but a new tactic aimed at the activisation of the work of the U.S. monopolist companies, especially oil companies, that won't save Carter from his oil crisis.

BRIEFS

DEVELOPMENT FUND'S CAPITAL--Baghdad, 1 August--The Iraqi RCC has decided to increase the capital of the Iraqi Foreign Development Fund from 50 million to 100 million Iraqi dinars. Iraq's contributions to Arab and international funds with similar objectives will be allocated to the Iraqi foreign development fund. [Baghdad INA in Arabic 1125 GMT 1 Aug 79 JN]

PRESS COMMENTS ON CARTER'S PROPOSALS FOR PALESTINIANS

JN030731 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0615 GMT 3 Aug 79 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] Local papers published today devote their editorials to discussion of U.S. President Jimmy Carter's proposals published by the New York TIMES yesterday, on the Palestinian people's legitimate right to exercise self-determination. These statements have angered and astonished Israelis and American Jewish leaders. Still, today's papers were unanimous in the view that these proposals do not give the Palestinians any chance at all for self-determination.

Discussing this subject, AR-RA'Y says: The U.S. proposals have angered and astonished the Israelis. However, what do these proposals, made by President Carter through the New York TIMES, mean? President Carter expressed the belief that the Palestinians will be prepared to accept the actual presence of Israeli military units as a guarantee of Israel's national security; in other words, to accept continued Israeli occupation. President Carter said that a great majority of Israelis prefer to reach a tolerant settlement with the Palestinians in accord with UN resolution No 242 and the two Camp David agreements concluded between Egypt and Israel. It will be recalled that in one of its provisions, resolution No 242 speaks about a just settlement of the refugee problem, but without defining the identity of these refugees. Consequently, as far as the Palestine issue is concerned, the Camp David agreements are tantamount to Begin's autonomy plan.

AR-RA'Y adds: President Carter emphasized the significance of flexibility on the Arab side. He also said that stable peace in the area cannot be reached without resolution of the Palestine issue. He stressed that increasing the military strength of both Israel and Egypt is of great significance to Middle East security.

AR-RA'Y concludes: The question now is: What is it that Israel objects to, since the U.S. President's proposals are more rigid than the Israeli stand itself?

On the same subject AL-AKHBAR says: In his statements about the crisis of the Israeli aggression against the Arabs, the U.S. President said no to the Palestinian state and yes to autonomy. Fortunately, the U.S. President is now directly confronting Israel's incorrect concept of autonomy. This concept does not give the Palestinians any right to self-determination, unless they grow desperate and evacuate their homeland, which is what Israel seeks. Unfortunately however, the U.S. President is talking about the problem of Israel's occupation of Arab lands within the framework of the authority that Israel should exercise in these lands and over their inhabitants.

AL-AKHBAR adds: The future of the Palestinian Arabs is linked to the future of their lands. Never in history has the future of a people been separated from the future of their homeland, as Israel is seeking to do with the future of Arabs in Palestine. It is now required that the reasoning in discussions of the Palestinians' future be set straight, because the Palestinians and the Arabs can accept nothing less on this issue than an Arab future in which the Palestinians' political cause is an internal Arab issue, unrelated to occupation or to the views of various Israeli parties.

VOL REPORTS INCIDENTS IN SOUTH

NC021815 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 2 Aug 79 NC

[Text] The Tyre and An-Nabatiyah areas were subjected to intermittent long-range artillery fire today, while Israeli warplanes flew at a low altitude over southern Lebanon. Casualties and material damage were reported. The bombardment was in retaliation for artillery exchanges during the night between Palestinian and Israeli positions in Arnun and Marj 'Uyun. In Marj 'Uyun, five citizens were wounded by Palestinian-leftist fire which disrupted the power supply and damaged water pipes in the area.

Maj Sa'd Haddad has sent a message to UNIFIL Commander Erskine asking concessions for his forces similar to those enjoyed by Palestinian gunmen and infiltrators within the UN area of operations, where the Palestinians have 24 bases in several villages specified by Major Haddad.

Reports from southern Lebanon today indicate that six civilians and one Lebanese soldier were wounded by artillery exchanges in the eastern sector. A Norwegian officer has said that the artillery fire has cut off the Norwegian contingent's landline communications. Israeli artillery has reportedly shelled An-Nabatiyah, Arnun, Al-Jarmaq, Ar-Rayhan, Al-'Ayshiyah and al-Hamidiyah areas. Palestinian gunmen ambushed a vehicle carrying three French officers about 10 km north of Tyre. The Palestinians, after seizing the officers' revolvers, ammunition, about $2,000 and passports, fled to Tyre. The incident created resentment within the UNIFIL ranks. The officials strongly denounced the incident. A Lebanese official said that the incident serves nobody but Israel.

Shelling Resumes

NC030605 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 3 Aug 79 NC

[Text] The Israeli attacks against the south were resumed last night. This morning our correspondent reported by telephone that Israeli artillery shelled several villages in the suburbs of An-Nabatiyah township and in the eastern sector at midnight yesterday. Israeli Army forces attacked Kawkaba in Al-'Urqub. The Israeli military spokesman admitted the attack this morning. At 0140, Israeli gunboats bombarded Burj ash-Shamali near Tyre, causing many fires. The Israeli sea bombardment was expanded at 0210 to include the southern suburbs of Tyre city and the orchards around Ra's al-'Ayn. Several warships were seen cruising along the Lebanese coast at night.

The eastern sector in the south was subjected to an extremely violent artillery shelling during the past 24 hours. The Israeli heavy artillery in Ar-Ruwayshat, (Saddani), the outskirts of Kafr Shuba and Al-'Abbasiyah, supported by the artillery of the border strip militia in Marj 'Uyun, shelled Hasbayya area for 17 continuous hours, forcing the inhabitants to stay at home or in shelters. Shells fell on the outskirts of Kawkaba and on the positions of the Lebanese battalion, the Nepalese forces and on (Jiwar Qaryi) in the western Al-Biqa', Al-Hasbani, 'Ayn al-Jawz and B'ir ad-Dhahr. Shells also fell on the plantations in 'Ayn Fujur and on the main road between Shab'ah and Jwayya and Al-Bir area.

The night shelling included the residential quarters in Hasbayya. Shells fell among the houses, particularly in Al-'Ayn quarters, where many houses were damaged and their windows were shattered. The shelling destroyed the power grid supplying Hasbayya and Marj 'Uyun. It has been reported that five persons have been wounded. One Lebanese soldier from Kawkaba battalion was also wounded. Fires broke out in Hassayya fields.

Israeli Incursion, Shelling

JN030744 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0645 GMT 3 Aug 79 JN

[Statement issued by the military spokesman of the Palestinian-Lebanese Nationalist Forces Joint Command central operations on 3 August]

[Text] The Zionist-isolationist enemy started artillery and rocket shelling of Al-Ayshiyah and Ar-Rayhan at 2400 last night. The enemy then expanded artillery shelling to include the area of Tyre and Ar-Rashidiyah.

At 0415, the Zionist isolationist enemy expanded its attack by sporadically shelling Al-Bazzuriyah, (Al-Khardli), Al-Burj ash-Shamali and Ras-al-'Ayn. Since 0100 this morning, the Zionist-isolationist enemy has been shelling our positions in the area of Al-'Ayshiyah, Ar-Rayhan, Yahmur, Al-Qulaylah and the Kawkaba hills with artillery and rockets.

At 2330 last night, one of the Israeli isolationist units infiltrated past the UN positions from the Blat Hills area to one of the Joint Command positions. The Israeli unit was forced to withdraw after a violent battle in which the enemy sustained losses in lives. Traces of blood were seen. Three of our people were wounded.

At 0320 this morning, the Israeli-isolationist forces continued shelling Kawkabah, Layyah and Yahmur. The artillery shelling of 'Ayshiyah and Ar-Rayhan ended at 0230 this morning.

Overflights, Naval Bombardment

NC030830 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0815 GMT 3 Aug 79 NC

[Text] At about 0900 today, Israeli warplanes flew at a low altitude over the south. This came in the wake of last night's raid by an Israeli commando detachment on a Palestinian position in Al-'Urqub area in the south. The position was destroyed and there were some casualties. At dawn today, Israeli gunboats bombarded the Burj ash-Shamali camp. The bombardment lasted for about 1 hour. At 0230, the Israeli artillery shelled Ar-Rashidiyah camp. Nothing has yet been announced about the casualties, although some sources say there were many casualties in Kawkaba area and the Burj ash-Shamali and Ar-Rashidiyah camps.

BOMB HURLED AT LIBYAN NEWS AGENCY OFFICE IN BEIRUT

NC021325 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 2 Aug 79 NC

[Text] At about 2000 last night, a bomb was thrown at the office of the Libyan news agency on Sadat street, Ra's Beirut. One of the office employees was hit in the head by shrapnel.

IMAM AS-SADR BRIGADES CLAIM RESPONSIBILITY FOR EXPLOSION

NC021326 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0815 GMT 2 Aug 79 NC

[Excerpt] An official of Imam as-Sadr Brigades contacted us this morning and declared that the brigades were responsible for the explosion that took place at the office of the Libyan news agency last night.

PRIME MINISTER DENIES END TO PUMPING OF SAUDI OIL

JN022059 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2035 GMT 2 Aug 79 JN

[Text] Beirut, 2 August--Lebanese Prime Minister Salim al-Huss has denied the report broadcast by Lebanese television this evening on stopping the pumping of Saudi oil to the Lebanese refinery in Az-Zahrani.

Salim al-Huss told an INA correspondent that this report is untrue. He said: We have not yet been informed of a Saudi decision on this matter. The Lebanese prime minister added: If the pumping of Saudi oil to Az-Zahrani should be stopped, this will not affect the local market. There will not be a fuel crisis in Lebanon.

The director of the Tapline refinery in Az-Zahrani has also denied this report. Speaking to an INA correspondent he said: We have not been informed of an official decision to stop the pumping of Saudi oil to the refinery.

YUGOSLAV SHIP UNLOADS ARMS IN BEIRUT PORT

NC021234 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 2 Aug 79 NC

[Excerpt] At 1030 the Yugoslav vessel Titograd anchored in Beirut port. The vessel is bringing ammunition for the Lebanese Army and it unloaded its cargo under the supervision of Lebanese Army officers.

ALGERIA

EL MOUDJAHID PRAISES MAURITANIAN DECISION ON SAHARA

LD022204 Algiers APS in English 1040 GMT 2 Aug 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, 2 Aug (APS)--The national daily EL MOUDJAHID devotes today its commentary to the Western Sahara conflict. Under the title "The Wise Way," the daily says Mauritania showed great courage and wisdom when announcing her decision to withdraw from Western Sahara. Mauritania positively voted for a resolution demanding self-determination for Western Sahara during the Monrovia summit of OAU.

EL MOUDJAHID points out that it is the first time since the July 10, 1978, coup (which toppled President Mokhtar Ould Daddah) that Mauritania officially commits herself to withdrawing from Western Sahara. The daily considers it an important step in the Saharan people's struggle for independence.

Western Sahara is jointly occupied by Moroccan (in the north) and Mauritanian troops (in the south).

"After thirteen months of negotiations which know ups and downs," says EL MOUDJAHID, Saharans and Mauritanians will meet again around the same table in order to define the modalities for bilateral peace.

The daily then alludes to the Mauritanian prisoners recently freed by the POLISARIO Front and says the gesture was appreicated in Nouakchott, as a sign of sincerity from "Saharan brothers."

Says EL MOUDJAHID, the Mauritanian leaders would have preferred a global solution but they will opt for a bilateral settlement if necessary. "This is to say, points out the paper, that Mauritanian do need to seek Moroccan Western Sahara. [sentence as received] What will be the reaction of Rabat, wonders the commentator.

EL MOUDJAHID alludes to the right of preemption invoked by the Moroccan king and says it is an attempt to overstep and torpedo the peace process by occupying the Western Sahara part presently held by Mauritania.

The daily wonders again whether Moroccans will put once more international instances before an accomplished fact. It recalls that 4000 monarchist troops are actually on the southern part of Western Sahara. Will they withdraw and let Saharans exercise their sovereignty over this part of their territory or will they be used to implement the right of preemption claimed by Rabat, asks El MOUDJAHID before concluding that new hindrances from Morocco would not be surprising so evident are their bellicose and expansionist intentions.

LIBYA

ZIMBABWE'S ROBERT MUGABE ARRIVES FOR TALKS 1 AUG

LD021324 Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 1 Aug 79 LD

[Text] Robert Mugabe, president of the Zimbabwe African National Union, arrived at noon today in Tripoli for a visit to the Jamahiriyah.

Meets At-Turayki

ID021639 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 2 Aug 79 ID

[Text] Tripoli--The foreign secretary at noon today received Robert Mugabe, co-leader of the Zimbabwe liberation front, who is currently on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

During this meeting, attended by the director of the African Department at the Foreign Secretariat, the means by which armed struggle can be escalated against the racist regimes in southern Africa--considering it's the only way to liberate the soil and men on the African Continent--were discussed. The means to challenge all capitulationist solutions being hatched by colonialism, reaction and the traitors in order to perpetuate minority rule in south of the continent were also discussed.

The foreign secretary stressed to Mr Mugabe the Jamahiriyah's full and unrestricted support for the struggle of the people of Zimbabwe to achieve freedom and full independence on their land.

Mr Mugabe expressed the gratitude and appreciation of the people of Zimbabwe for the support extended by the Jamahiriyah. He said that this backing confirms the clear and sound line followed by the Great First of September Revolution in its support for African liberation causes and in supporting armed struggle against racist regimes in the south of the continent.

MAURITANIA

INFORMATION MINISTER ON RELATIONS WITH MOROCCO

PA030406 Paris AFP in English 0345 GMT 3 Aug 79 PA

[Text] Nouakchott, Aug 3 (AFP)--Mauritania said yesterday that its decision to pull out from the desert war against Algerian-backed Saharan guerrillas fighting for the independence of the former Spanish Sahara should not affect its good relations with Morocco.

In a radio interview, Information Minister Ahmed Mahmoud Ould Houcein described relations between Mauritania and Morocco--the two countries which partitioned the Western Sahara early in 1976--as "very good" and said they must remain that way.

Yesterday Morocco warned Nouakchott that if it withdrew from the part of the Western Sahara under its control, Rabat would be forced to take "all appropriate measures to ensure its own security and the stability of the whole region."

Delivering the warning, Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta indicated that Rabat and Nouakchott had an agreement which would be violated by an unilateral Mauritanian withdrawal from the contested Western Sahara.

In an apparent reply, Lt Col Houcein said the Mauritanian move was the continuation of the peace policy launched by the junta which toppled President Moktar Ould Daddah in July last year.

"We thought that this solution (peace) could be global...but we have always repeated that if this path was impracticable, Mauritania would, for its part, opt for a settlement that puts a final end to its involvement in this conflict," he added.

He noted that the Mauritanian people, if consulted, "would never have accepted to make so many sacrifices for a chunk of desert it does not claim."

Stressing that Mauritania needed peace to rebuild its crippled economy, Lt Col Houcein called on all the parties to the Saharan conflict--Morocco, Algeria, and the Saharan guerrilla POLISARIO Front--to sit down around a negotiating table for a serious effort to implement relevant Organization of African Unity (OAU) and United Nations resolutions.

MOROCCO

KING HASSAN COMMENTS ON MAURITANIA'S 'NEW ATTITUDE'

ID022322 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 2 Aug 79 ID

[Excerpts] The Council of Hassaniyah [religious gathering attended by king each Ramadan] chaired by His Majesty King Hassan II, may God grant him victory, was tonight marked by a speech delivered by his majesty in connection with reports about Mauritania's new attitude toward the Sahara problem. Here is a recording of his majesty's speech:

[Hassan--begin recording] In the name of God, the all merciful, the all compassionate: Prayers and peace be on God's Prophet. The best talk is about God's book and the best guide is our prophet Muhammad, prayers and peace be upon him.

Dear people, in recent days reports have come in--and these are being confirmed--that Mauritania may abandon the part of the Sahara named Western Tiris. Dear people, we have said many times and we have repeated it and we continue to say that Mauritania is a sovereign country and it can pass any legislation at home within its borders and homeland. However, international law as recognized and applied today has a theory in this context to the effect that bilateral character commit the signatory more than a domestic law does. In a more clear expression, Mauritania or Morocco cannot pass legislation at home which ignores international agreements between the two countries. Here one finds that sovereignty has limits when it relates to bilateral or miltilateral problems of an international nature.

Should Mauritania carry out such an action, Morocco will then be forced to shoulder its responsibility. I do not say responsibilities; the only responsibility necessary and that must be shouldered is the responsibility to defend its existence--its existence within the context of originality, within the context of freedom, within the context of democracy, within the context of Islam, within the context of tranquility extending the length and breadth of the country and from north to south.

When some responsible Mauritanian leaders say that they will hand over the administration of that part which they hold, they have forgotten, or pretend to have forgotten, that they had organized local and national elections in their country. They have forgotten, or pretend they have forgotten, that they have concluded agreements with various states on fishing along their coasts from Dakhlah right to the south of Mauritania.

If it is permissible in international relationships to allow what was said yesterday to disappear today, then we are entitled to ask: How can a continent such as Africa, which is still learning how to stand on its own feet, take a giant stride, embark on an upsurge, adopt a bold policy and observe high standards of ethics?

My dear people, I would like you to realize that we are following events with calm resolution because the present situation calls for careful reflection and analysis.

COMMENTARY SCORES MAURITANIA FOR BREAKING MILITARY TREATY

ID022233 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 2 Aug 79 ID

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] One result of the Monrovia conference has been increased tension in northwestern Africa due to manipulations witnessed in the conference hall. The attention of political observers was attracted in particular to the attitude of the Mauritanian Government, which announced its desire to accept all that agrees with Algerian conditions. Despite the successive setbacks in the policy of the Mauritanian Government; despite the campaigns to cast doubts and shake the confidence of the Mauritanian and the Moroccan peoples, and despite the statements welcomed by the Algerian trumpets which were blown to the skies in commentaries hostile to the Moroccan people, despite all this, Morocco maintained its calm and balance whether concerning a comprehensive view of the situation or as regards possible conceptualizations of the future.

It is no secret that a number of military units belonging to the Moroccan Royal Armed Forces are in Mauritania at the request of past and present governments. It is also no secret that the presence of those forces came at a time when all methods of violence and killing were directed against the Mauritanian people at the hands of mercenary gangs in an attempt to force Mauritania to bend forever before those who were behind those gangs. Confronted by the fierceness of the aggression and battles, it became clear to the Mauritanian Government that the plot was larger than scores of armed mercenaries to touch on various manifestations of plotting against the region with the aim of shaking regimes in it, splitting its territorial integrity and damaging its dignity.

Then came the signing of the joint defense agreement between Morocco and Mauritania, the agreement according to which Morocco pledged to assist the Mauritanian people at a difficult period in its history. Thus the armed forces of Morocco and Mauritania were brought together by comradeship of arms, the honor of martyrdom and the will to defend the complete unity of the Mauritanian people. Amid the sound of battle Mauritanian and Moroccan martyrs fell in carrying forward the agreed pledge undertaken by each people to provide all assistance and respect all the premises of loyalty and pacts. Among those premises is safeguarding the integrity and eternity of the borders between our two countries, where there is no room for hotbeds of discord, [words indistinct] and confusion.

With the passage of time and as a result of changes in the Mauritanian leadership since last year it has become clear that the Nouakchott Government, whether in official statements or in moves in the field, has perhaps decided to withdraw from the Saharan part which we regarded as a bridge of fraternity and communication between us. The Mauritanian prime minister said that his country had no territorial claims in the Western Sahara. This is a separate attitude adopted by the Mauritanian Government which knows very well its reflections on the security and safety of the region. If the Mauritanian Government within the context of Mauritanian sovereignty can adopt what decisions it likes, those decisions should not constitute a danger to Morocco and its territorial integrity.

The violation of the Moroccan-Mauritanian treaty is a break of the pact that brings together the Mauritanian and the Moroccan people and is an encroachment on the sacredness of the common battle which we waged together and for which we paid with many human, material and moral sacrifices. Therefore, Morocco will find itself forced to take all measures necessary in defending its territorial unity and guaranteeing its security and the safety of its citizens. The treaty between the two countries is a treaty blessed by the blood of martyrs [words indistinct] forever by the sacrifices of both peoples. It is therefore a strong charter and a lasting pledge that must be safeguarded in faithfulness to those who were sacrificed for it. Morocco follows all developments with the caution, eagerness and readiness that the matter requires.

LE MATIN CITES BOUCETTA INTERVIEW ON OAU, SAHARA

ID030847 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 25 Jul 79 p 1 ID

[MAP report: "No Political Problem in Sahara"]

[Text] Rabat, 24 July--The paris weekly INTERNATIONAL REPORT of 13 July published an interview given by M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, during the Arab League foreign ministers' conference in Tunis.

During this interview the minister of state answered questions on the Sahara problem, the Arab League's rules and the threat of military occupation of the oilfields.

The main points of this interview are as follows:

INTERNATIONAL REPORT: Minister, is it true that the question of revising the league's rules was raised during the conference?

Boucetta: Not exactly. However we think that several points in the Arab League's rules should be revised, especially those relating to its structures and executive bodies. The league's rules, which were drawn up 35 years ago, need to be expanded and improved to meet present-day requirements. We must also improve coordination between the various organizations which are linked to the league organically or otherwise and which have the common factor of being pan-Arab organizations. Therefore there should be more publicity for, and above all more interest in, economic decisions and achievements inspired or implemented by the Arab League and its various bodies.

INTERNATIONAL REPORT: How does Morocco view a political solution to the West Sahara problem?

Boucetta: There is no political problem in the Sahara. There are armed gangs which attack Moroccan and Mauritanian territory from bases in a given territory. If these armed gangs stopped their attacks there would be no further problem. We believe in an are constantly working to build a developed and peaceful Arab Maghreb.

BEGIN RELEASED FROM HADASSAH HOSPITAL 3 AUG

TA030853 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0843 GMT 3 Aug 79 TA

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Memahem Begin left Hadassah hospital in Jerusalem a short while ago and returned home. The prime minister thanked the physicians and the nurses who had taken care of him.

I am leaving healthy and recovered, the prime minister told the numerous foreign and Israeli correspondents, journalists, radio and television correspondents who came to greet him at the hospital. With a broad smile the prime minister said: I hope that the doctors and nurses will now come to visit me at my home every Saturday when they are free and that I will not have to visit them in the hospital. The prime minister added that he hopes to return to work after a rest of up to a week.

STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S CLAIM DISMISSED

TA030546 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 3 Aug 79 TA

[Text] Political circles in Jerusalem flatly deny the State Department spokesman's claim that the reports from Israel on the conduct of the political negotiations are incorrect. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer was told that the reports on the U.S. posture at this week's meeting of the working teams in Alexandria are exact and correct. The U.S. representative was explicitly speaking about the U.S. striving to establish an administrative and governmental [mimshali] body for the inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District. He stressed he had received instructions from Washington to express these positions. He also noted that the U.S. delegation has so far failed to submit a working document regarding the jurisdictions of the self-administration so as not to provoke Israel.

The Egyptian news agency confirmed last night that Egypt had demanded in the Alexandria talk that the autonomy institutions be a nucleus for the Palestinian Government. For this reason, Cairo insisted on the demand that these bodies be furnished with judicial and executive authority.

TAMIR REACTS TO U.S. NEGOTIATION POSTURE

TA021931 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 2 Aug 79 TA

[Text] Political circles in Jersualem say that they were not surprised by the U.S. position regarding PLO participation in the negotiations and Israeli withdrawal to the 1967 borders. These circles pointed out that the U.S. administration is ruled by Assistant Secretary of State Harold Saunder's views and it is this position which brought about President Carter's remarks.

These remarks were made against the background of President Carter's remarks about the PLO in which he compared the organization to the equal rights movement in the United States. Today our political correspondent discussed this with Minister Shmu'el Tamir who is a member of Israel's negotiating team to the autonomy negotiations. [begin videotape]

[Tamir] It is very likely that the oil issue which is very pressing to the United States and the manner of the U.S. administration's dealing with the oil problem, and domestic reactions have created a feeling within the United States that things should suddenly be accelerated at a time when nothing is moving slowly, thus the undesirable development.

I am convinced that when it is made clear to the Americans that they will not be able to influence Israel in this way, neither this way nor through attempts to erode from within [Israel], they will arrive at the correct conclusion because here in the field, and also with respect to the autonomy issue we are talking about something that will not come into being without Israeli agreement and Israel's agreement is given to an administrative autonomy as we initiated, as we negotiated and as was agreed at Camp David. Any attempt to impart to it a character which, in one way or another, leads to a kind of Palestinian state will meet up with a national consensus which will reject this. This will not come into being without Israeli agreement and this will not be given.

[Question] You are a member of the Ministerial Committee for Autonomy Affairs and the negotiations are to be resumed in Haifa on Sunday. In view of the U.S. position what can be expected at the talks?

[Answer] Since I am participating in the talks you must understand that I will not talk now about what can be expected. However, in general terms I have no doubt that the Americans will realize, and they know this not only from the autonomy talks, that the State of Israel, across the whole spectrum, apart from marginal groups, will not come to terms with a Palestinian state, will not negotiate with the PLO under any conditions and will not allow the creation of a situation which will lead to a Palestinian state; the autonomy will come about only if it is an autonomy along the lines of Camp David. [end videotape]

JERUSALEM POST ON 'ALERT' OVER WASHINGTON MOVES

TA030635 Jerusalem POST in English 3 Aug 79 pp 1, 2 TA

[By Anan Safadi, POST Mideast affairs editor]

[Text] Jerusalem was yesterday under what amounted to a state of political alert, amid signs of a brewing show-down with Washington over what is seen here as a dramatic change in the U.S. attitude to the Palestinian issue.

Both the prime minister's office and the Foreign Ministry were scrutinizing American statements before submitting a full report to Premier Menahem Begin, who is due to return home today from two weeks in hospital.

Government circles are worried by pronouncements by President Jimmy Carter and his subordinates signalling an American readiness to begin a dialog with the Palestine Liberation Organization on the promotion of a Palestinian homeland once the PLO has proclaimed the acceptance of Israel. Also causing concern are proposals the Americans put forward this week for the creation of a "governmental authority" in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the inclusion of East Jerusalem's Arabs in elections for West Bank autonomy institutions, and the repatriation of Palestinian refugees to the administered territories.

Authoritative sources said that all Cabinet members have been alerted to the forthcoming discussion at Sunday's regular weekly meeting of "the change in the U.S. policy" and reports that Washington is considering the amendment of the UN Security Council Resolution 242, with the aim of facilitating PLO participation in future peace moves.

Israel has held off any official reaction until after the Cabinet meeting.

Nevertheless, Deputy Premier Yiga'el Yadin yesterday cautioned that "any attempt to amend Resolution 242, explicitly or by implication, will raise a serious obstacle to further progress in the peace negotiations."

Yadin's warning coincided with reports that a number of ministers plan to suggest that current negotiations over the Palestinian issue, including the projected autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza, be suspended pending clarification of the U.S. position. The U.S. has been taking an active role in the current deliberations.

Israel's chief negotiator at the autonomy talks, Interior Minister Yosef Burg, last night told the Jerusalem POST that current developments indicate that the Americans have "either changed their minds, or decided to express their opinion in a more aggressive manner."

Burg said that the Americans have been moving more aggressively and more rapidly than they had indicated to Israel when the peace treaty with Egypt was signed last March. He warned that recent pronouncements attributed to American leaders would have adverse effects on future deliberations on autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza.

Begin's top political aide, Yehi'el Qadishay, yesterday told newsmen that Jerusalem viewed the credibility of the U.S. as "shattered" because of its failure to adhere to commitments made to Israel. He made it clear that Israel would continue to oppose any dialogue between the United States and the PLO, even if the PLO signalled its preparedness to accept Israel's existence. "We exist," he said, adding: "We don't want anybody to recognize our existence. This is an insult to intelligence."

Semi-official background handouts following main events yesterday cautioned that the Carter administration may now be forging ahead with what was described as a "consistent policy" aimed at the eventual creation of a Palestinian homeland that would compel Israel to withdraw to the pre-Six Day War frontiers with the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Sources close to the government last night said that American reassurances that there was "no change" in U.S. policy are dismissed as maneuvres. The same sources insisted that there was enough evidence to prove the contrary. The sources said that Washington was clearly deviating from its traditional policy in an apparently "naive" quest to appease three parties:

--The PLO, whose consent the United States wants for the continuation of the current autonomy negotiations, as well as for elections to the projected self-rule institutions in the West Bank and Gaza.

--The radical Arabs, whom the United States seeks to prevent from undermining the current peace process, also wishing to cut them off from the Soviet Union and its designs in the region.

--Saudi Arabia, whose oil the Carter administration now needs more than ever before.

One official last night related U.S. denials that it was engaged in contacts with the PLO, to a statement made by a member of the PLO Executive Committee. The statement said that an indirect dialogue with Washington had indeed begun. It came from Talal Naji, a leading member of the extremist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), in an interview with Amman's daily AD-DUSTUR.

Israeli's dispute with the United States over the approach to the Palestinian problem is expected to be reflected in the fifth round of the autonomy negotiations scheduled to open in Haifa on Sunday at ministerial level. Egypt will be represented by Premier Mustafa Khalil, the U.S. by presidential envoy Robert Strauss, and Israel by Interior Minister Burg.

It was not definite last night that Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan would take part in the Haifa meetings, although he will hold talks with visiting Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Chali on yet another controversial issue which jolted Jerusalem's relations with Washington last week. This is the question of the replacement of the Sinai-based UN Emergency Force (UNEF) whose mandate was terminated last week at the insistence of the Soviet Union, which opposes the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. An American proposal to which Egypt subscribed, that observers from the UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) take over, has been rejected by Israel on the grounds that UNTSO is not subject to the authority of the UN Security Council, whose endorsement of the peace treaty is seen as vital.

POST Editorial

TA030651 Jerusalem POST in English 3 Aug 79 p 16 TA

[Editorial: "Collision Course"]

[Text] The spectre of a major clash of positions between the United States and Israel has haunted Jerusalem policy-makers for years. Now it appears at hand.

The center of the brewing storm is the very plan of Palestinian autonomy that Premier Begin laid out not only as a vital adjunct to the peace agreement with Egypt, but also as insurance against a rift in relations with the United States.

Mr Begin's reasoning was that a strategic coordination, of the kind advocated by ex-Premier Yitzhaq Rabin, between Jerusalem and Washington was impossible, or at least undesirable. It would, however, be unnecessary as well, if the sting could be taken out of the Palestinian problem by allowing the residents of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza to have their own system of administrative self-rule; and if the Americans could be induced to cooperate in working it out.

The premier has often been cautioned by domestic critics from both left and right that he might be indulging in wishful thinking. This week official Washington has finally made it clear that, from the American vantage point, autonomy is useful only for purposes that have very little to do with Israel's own.

The new American policy was spelled out this week in three separate but closely related developments. In the U.S. capital President Carter, speaking to a New York TIMES reporter, drew an analogy between the struggle of the Palestinians with the civil rights campaign of American blacks. In the laundered version of White House Spokesman Jody Powell this was supposed to be a reference to the Palestinian (refugee) struggle for the right of return (not likely to be realized in practice) to the West Bank.

There is, of course, not the slightest warrant in the "framework of peace" concluded between Israel and Egypt for any such unlimited refugee right under the autonomy.

Nor is there basis for the proposals apparently submitted by Egypt, but supported by James Leonard, the U.S. delegate to the autonomy talks in Alexandria this week.

These proposals called for endowing the administrative self-governing authority with legislative powers; the inclusion of East Jerusalem in the autonomy scheme, and the granting of voting rights in autonomy elections to Palestinians residing outside the areas.

These proposals shocked the Israeli participants and the Cabinet ministers to whom they later reported, who felt the autonomy talks were receiving an unfavorable tilt with U.S. support.

At the same time in New York it was becoming well-nigh official that the United States, despite repeated denials, was activity engaged in an effort to get Security Council Resolution 242 revised in such a way as to make it possible for PLO "moderates" to endorse it.

The revision might consist of the addition of a formula recognizing "the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and their just requirements"--taken from the Camp David accord.

If the PLO condescended to accept such a modified version of Resolution 242, the United States would treat this act (even in the face of denials by PLO leaders) as tantamount to a recognition of Israel's legitimate statehood. Acting on this false pretence, the United States would feel free to openly negotiate with the terrorist organization as the rightful spokesman of the Palestinians.

True, not everything has changed. Mr Carter still professes to be opposed to the idea of a Palestinian state, on the ground that it would have a destabilizing effect on the region. Unlike some of his predecessors, he is still not threatening Israel with the withdrawal of military or financial support unless it toes the line. But the U.S. President is patently less concerned about securing Israel's consent than about winning the PLO's, and Saudi Arabia's, favor. The autonomy plan has become a means of assuring the steady flow of Saudi oil to the United States--a necessary aspect of the Carter energy plan.

Israel's reaction to the American policy shift has so far been appallingly feeble. Although it could be seen coming for some time now, all that the Cabinet saw fit to occupy itself with was the more trivial matter or UNEF/UNTSO. If Foreign Minister Dayan viewed this as a club to beat the Americans back on more vital issues, he must now realize that he was clutching at a staw.

But there is no question that if and when the government decides to make a resolute stand against any attempt to force a slightly adorned but essentially unreconstructed PLO upon Israel, the government will have the support of the overwhelming majority of the people. And if Mr Carter has been led by some of his assistants to believe anything else-as is implied in his New York TIMES interview--then an urgent reevaluation would seem to be in order in Washington.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT IN CONFRONTATION WITH U.S. OVER AUTONOMY

TA021110 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 2 Aug 79 pp 1, 8 TA

[By Erol Guiney]

[Text] A confrontation with the United States over the issue of the autonomy talks was inevitable. However, surprisingly enough it came at an early stage, even before a real freeze occurred in the negotiations between Israel and Egypt.

Another surprise is the fact that it was combined with a series of other grave developments: the U.S. attempt to change Security Council Resolution 242 by adding paragraphs on the Palestinians' rights, the efforts to make the PLO join the negotiations, President Carter's comparison of the PLO with the human rights movements in the United States, the conflict over the UN forces in the Sinai and the decision to supply Jordan with modern tanks.

Undoubtedly, all these facts create a very gloomy picture of Israeli-U.S. relations shortly after the signing of the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt in Washington.

All these developments are definitely related to the peace treaty and the energy crisis, which erupted in the wake of the Iranian revolution. Those people in the Arab world opposed to the peace treaty--although in conflict among themselves--have succeeded in mobilizing all the oil-producing countries in the Middle East against the peace treaty. Saudi Arabia in particular has adopted a policy of "the stick and the carrot" in regard to the quantities of oil it is ready to sell to the United States. Within the framework of this policy, Saudi Arabia determines the quantities of oil according to the U.S. position on the Palestinian question, although it does not explicitly declare this.

As is known, one should not expect the problem of U.S. dependence on Middle Eastern oil to be solved in the near future but within a few years. Therefore, the Carter administration has adopted a policy aimed at proving that it is making all the efforts necessary to find a solution to the Palestinian problem which will be more or less agreeable to the Saudis and other Arab elements. At the same time, the autonomy talks were joined by Robert Strauss, a man lacking in any experience whatsoever in regard to Middle Eastern issues. This also contributed to advancing a confrontation on the autonomy issue.

The lack of unity prevailing in Israel's government and state and its economic helplessness have given the United States the impression that it can operate in a more overt way than it has to date. The only way to prevent graver developments is to unite around a reasonable policy which can be better understood in the United States and in the West than the current policy of Begin's Cabinet. It is very beneficial that the Jewish community in the United States firmly reacts to the unacceptable positions formulated by Carter's administration.

LABOR PARTY REACTIONS TEAM ON NEW U.S. LINE

TA021551 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 2 Aug 79 TA

[Text] The Labor Party says that President Carter's statements and the remarks made by the U.S. delegation to the autonomy talks arouse concern in Israel among the Jewish world with regard to the U.S. administration's ideas concerning UN Security Council Resolution 242. The Labor Party's reaction team has expressed deep concern over the new U.S. move.

The team says that this move paves the road to a Palestinian state in Judaea and Samaria which will also include East Jerusalem and its inhabitants. The statement made by the team says that these developments point to the Israeli Cabinet's blindness in advocating autonomy for the Arabs and at the same time full Israeli control over them.

URQUHART MAKES STATEMENT AFTER MEETING WITH WEIZMAN

TA021633 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 2 Aug 79 TA

[UN Assistant Secretary General Brian Urquhart statement to military correspondent Gad Becker after Urquhart's meetings with Weizman and Foreign Ministry officials, date and place not given]

[Text] [Urquhart] With Mr Weizman. Well we discussed a number of subjects which we are concerned with and he is also concerned with, including the current situation in Sinai and on which I was very interested to have... Of course we also discussed the situation in southern Lebanon. I was very interested in hearing the defense minister's views. We exchanged views in regard to what both of us think is the way to improve the situation. The talk was friendly and important, even though we see things from a different angle.

As for the results of the meeting: It is difficult to talk about direct results on the issues we discussed. In the Sinai, we are evacuating the UNEF. This process might take 6 to 8 weeks and we will remove the forces primarily through Cairo and Ofira. Even then a lot of work will still have to be done regarding the evacuation of the [UN] installations. As for the observers, we are authorized to...well, we have to withdraw the UN force now. We are authorized to maintain the military observers in the area under the existing arrangements, and we shall see...when and if any party would like to make use of them. If the observers are activated, I am convinced that they will do a good job just like they have in the last 30 years.

Will the UNTSO force be increased? We will discuss this when the parties reach an agreement on what they want to do.

[Becker] As for his visit to Beirut, during which he met with Yasir 'Arafat:

[Urquhart] Mr 'Arafat told me what he thinks about the present situation, what he thinks... what he is prepared to do, what their position is, and...'Arafat, who, despite your views about him, is an important element in the situation, told me about how he regards the situation in southern Lebanon and this is significant as far as we are concerned, because north of the UNIFIL force--though not south of the Al-Litani River--there are armed Palestinian forces. I know that 'Arafat's views are unacceptable here, but we must try to progress and a conversation with him is significant.

[Becker] As for the charges being voiced in Israel against UNIFIL, Urquhart replies that he has met with similar claims from the other side of the border.

IDF FORCES ATTACK TERRORIST BASES IN FATAHLAND 3 AUG

TA030530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 3 Aug 79 TA

[Text] Last night, an IDF assault force attacked terrorist bases in the Al-Qayqabah area in southern Fatahland. Our force sustained no casualties. The IDF spokesman reported that seven terrorists were killed.

Our military correspondent Roni Daniyel adds that terrorists launched strikes against Israel from bases in the region and that last night two of the bases were attacked. Our correspondent points out that there are several hundred terrorists in the Fatahland region.

OC Northern Command Avigdor Ben-Gal told our correspondent Yehezq'el Hame'iri that the force had passed through areas under UNIFIL control, but the UN troops did not interfere in the course of the operation. Major General Ben-Gal noted that the two targets are located about 15 kilometers north of Metulla. Discussing the course of the operation, the major general said that at one target the terrorists were taken by surprise and, before they had a chance to react, the IDF soldiers destroyed their fortifications and liquidated them. Near another target, the IDF force had been observed while on its way to the objective, but after a short battle the terrorists were liquidated and the task was accomplished. Trenches, improved positions and large quantities of arms were found at both targets.

SEVERAL U.S. DELEGATIONS VISIT WEST BANK

TA030705 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 3 Aug 79 TA

[Text] Two delegations from the United States came to Judaea and Samaria and held talks with mayors of cities on political issues. The delegations in question are from a body that calls itself the New York Committee for Solidarity With the Palestinian People and from a Chicago group calling itself the Committee for the Rights of the Palestinian Man. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari has learned that the New York committee delegation met yesterday with the mayor of Halhul and discussed relations between city mayors and the military government, Jewish settlements and the situation of the inhabitants.

Our correspondent notes that a delegation of U.S. university lecturers recently visited Gaza.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN INVESTMENTS--In the second quarter of this year there was a 50 percent increase in foreign investments, in comparison with the same period last year. About $60 million of $240 million--the overall forecast of foreign investments for this year--have been invested. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 31 Jul 79 TA]

STATISTICS ON IMMIGRATION--The number of immigrants coming to Israel increased by more than 50 percent during the first half of 1979 as compared to some period last year. It reached 17,500. This is reported by the Central Bureau of Statistics. [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 20 Jul 79 TA]

PRIME MINISTER BAZARGAN ADDRESSES NATION

LD020940 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2018 GMT 1 Aug 79 LD

[Address to the nation by Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan--recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Dear compatriots and illustrious comrades in arms, 2 weeks ago, when I last spoke to you on television, I wished to make everybody happy. In order to put an end to the differences, or rather, the waste of time, a plan was thought out whereby the three poles or centers of decision-making might be brought much closer together and combined, so that a number of people from the council of the revolution might enter the government and a number of people from the government might enter the council of the revolution so that cooperation and unity of thought might be carried out with greater speed, sincerity and everything else.

I now wish to add that fortunately this experiment has been fulfilled: We have carried out this action and, on the whole, the result has been satisfactory--that is, the business of government is running more efficiently and more smoothly. How essential and necessary this action was in view of the incidents and dangers which threaten our country and create problems! It was extremely apprioriate that such a step took place.

A few days before that speech, the unity march which took place throughout the country was extremely successful and was tantamount to a sharp blow to the mouths of subversives and divisive people.

Now tonight, or today, as this speech will in effect reach you at night, I wish to speak to you about unity in action or, more candidly, about refraining from division, quarrelling, divided ranks and emasculation in action, something which is extraordinarily necessary. Well, you yourselves know better than we that the realm which has carried out this vast revolution is by no means in the last days of its work and we are in the last days of our revolution [as heard] and we have crossed many difficult mountain passes, thank God for that. We also have passes and difficulties ahead. And this revolution not only overthrew with might and glory the 2,000-year old despotic regime, but also dealt blows at the interests, policies, machinations and designs of a great many foreign and domestic hegemonists. It was extremely natural, it is extremely natural that this revolution, that its final victory could not be achieved free and without any trials and tribulations.

Well, the shah, who left the realm with all that shame and infamy, it is natural that he will not sit still. Together with his clique, the means at his disposal and the capabilities he has, he will at all times be prepared to create sabotage and to bring harm to the realm and bring about his own return.

The Zionists, who more than others have received this shock and blow from our revolution, who have incurred losses more than others, and their imperialist protectors the various hangers-on, well, these people, too, should--and it is natural that they should--resort to activity and to put into action whatever is in their power and within their capability against our country and against our revolution. This is because the losses and harm which they have incurred and the shocks which they have received cannot be imagined or measured.

The more progress we make and the more acquainted we become and the more we learn about the problems, about the things that have passed, the more we see what agreements, what transactions and what vast profits other governments obtained from the governments of our despotic regime; and it is extremely natural that they should become extremely unconfortable and harbor rancour, animosity, and spite against this revolution of Iran and against our victory.

May I say just the following paranthetically, as the subject of agreements has arisen: Recently, certain papers expressed surprise and protected the government's decision to retain certain agreements with foreign countries and governments; and these papers' expectations were that the revolutionary government which had come to power, which was a government of an Islamic Republic, should en masse throw away and wipe out all the agreements and treaties which had been concluded in the past.

In a previous television address--and also as the government spokesman explained--I explained that the agreements which the previous government--that is, the previous regime--had concluded were multifarious. There are arms agreements, development agreements, services agreements, agreements for purchases for orders, for food and all sorts of things. And thanks to the disruption of the realm's economic and agricultural activities we have been in need of the same from our own standpoint; and these agreements which have been concluded have not for the most part been basically against the country and contrary to our interests, but rather were aimed at improving our technical, economic welfare and development levels and also at heightening the real military and defense levels.

When we began our work and studied these one by one, we had to destroy totally those that were concerned with armaments agreements which were based on Iran being the gendarme in the Persian Gulf and in the Indian Ocean, or which were mainly the outcome of the shah's ambition to become a powerful monarch with inflated aspirations. And we did precisely that. But all these agreements and orders which had been placed were not all exaggerated, highly ambitious and that sort of thing. Many of these agreements, for instance, had mostly been paid for and people owed us and we ought to collect. Also, there were agreements and orders placed for spare parts. These agreements which have recently been retained or are gradually being retained are mostly concerned with spare parts for these armaments which we possess--and I once said that they were worth $40 billion--and constantly our aircraft, helicopters and other arms require both maintenance and spare parts; and were this not to take place the $40 billion worth of armaments which we possess--that is, the tanks, the aircraft--all these should then be thrown on the rubbish dump, unless we seek the help of another country, the equal of those countries with which we previously concluded agreements--and we have concluded agreements with all countries, both Western or Eastern--in which case we would have to spend stupendous sums and will have to wait a long time and even then one would not be sure whether what we have in mind would be accomplished.

In order to obtain the spare parts for the air force, there were agreements and orders which were fully paid for, or there were factories, organizations, means of maintenance and repairs most of which had been accomplished or paid for to the tune of 75 to 80 percent, and their sites had also been built. This type of agreement, we had to keep because of the interests of the realm and in order to safeguard the existence and territorial integrity of the country, since the realm does need an army, needs law enforcement forces and, thank God, we now see only too well how much it needs these things, and without these we cannot do a single thing. We ought to have these, and we should carry out a full reconstruction of everything in the realm, including the army and the law enforcement forces.

We have also had a great many peaceful, development, technical and economic agreements which--apart from those agreements concerned with atomic energy which for very good reasons have been considered to be harmful to the realm and to be utterly disadvantageous and, probably, from the economic standpoint, it would be worth throwing away what has been paid out while the rest remains either unaccomplished or to be turned into something else--apart from the atomic energy agreements, most of our agreements, such as those concerned with power stations, silos, dams, hydroelectric dams, and many other factories, these are things which have been mainly paid for--if we were to stop these things and discontinue the agreements concerned, what would the result be?

Last time I also fully explained that the result would be that we would first of all be recognized in the world as having reneged and broken our promise, while the other parties have sufficient guarantees from us and will obtain all the penalties to the last penny, and then we, too, will be deprived of the vast capital investments, in addition to the fact that most of these parties, factories and companies are coupled with employment and with giving work to over 1,000 and sometimes 10,000 staff and workers. And then, if the agreement is abrogated, we should dismiss these staff and workers or, if we do not dismiss them, we should give them money for nothing; and there are certain enterprises which involve 30,000 workers, 30,000 staff. Therefore, in all these agreements we have chosen the path that, should they have reached a phase whereby their continuation and retention would be in our interest from the standpoint of the economy and of the country's interests, then we should continue the same. And this is precisely how we have decided everywhere.

I have explained this part of my speech paranthetically and it is a repetition of my previous speeches so that it would not be thought, and so that certain people do not level the accusation at us, that the Provisional Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has come along and has connived with foreign countries or that it has kowtowed to the behests of the former regime; rather these agreements--that is, those which are retained or are continued--are all aimed at the interests and at serving the needs of and serving the realm.

Now, to go back to what we were talking about before. The problem was that there have been many attacks, conspiracies and disturbances against us by the enemy, whom we should refer to by the general name of counterrevolution, by the enemy or enemies of Iran, especially during the recent few months. It is quite natural that the situation should be like this when faced with a huge operation and the extraordinary damage, and a revolution which is not only national and belonging to our country--this Islamic revolution--but as a matter of fact Iran has invented a universal revolution, has created a quake in the world which can not pass without reaction, opposition and enmity from those who have suffered damages in the revolution. Also, I should add that these disturbances and attacks, which are considered natural, have been beneficial to us. They have made the Iranian nation and the people of Iran stronger more experienced and more organized. Our revolution, which can be considered rather premature, and which reached the first stages of victory with incredible speed, had shortcomings as regards organization, experience and readiness. These attacks, problems and difficulties have been beneficial to us in that they have made us stronger, more familiar with the situation, more aware and [word indstinct].

The Revolutionary Guards we have now, who have come forward voluntarily and who go to the enemy front and places that they should defend voluntarily, because of their training or their spirit and self-sacrifice are now much better than before. People are gradually realizing the necessity of these matters much better and there are more volunteers.

Now, it is worthwhile seeing what our enemies, who have joined to make a common front, get out of these conspiracies, instigations, plots and disturbances which they have provoked and still are provoking against us. One day there is confusion, disturbance and murder in Gonbad-e Kavus; another day groups of self-styled unemployed, but in reality commissioned, and paid, march and demonstrate; for a time, a long time, in Kordestan attacks have been made. They disarm our gendarmerie bases or other bases in the region or they completely take over the base. Or they attack the people and the guards and then they say that they have been attacked by the army, wheras the army and our security forces have always been injured and suppressed and on all the occasions they have been attacked first and they have retaliated in self-defense--legal and religious defense which is accepted by all the laws and principles--and have entered the action in order to prove their existence and to restore security and in support of the police forces and the people.

One day they do this, one day--by which I mean days and even months, we have observed this and it is still going on. They revive the story of Shi'a and Sunni in the country, whereas in this country for many years Shi'a and Sunni have lived together in peace and without enmity. Or in the south they provoke the difference in language between the Arab Shi'as and the Fars Shi'as, or they do something else in Sistan or Baluchestan. They make the workers gather or stage sit-ins or strikes here and there, or they stop work in workshops and in factories. Every day there are new problems and situations created in order to keep the country in the state it is now.

As to those on the other side--that is, those who are in camps of counterrevolution: One is the shah with all his followers and mercenaries, who with their enoormous amounts of money and endless possibilities have gone there and have nothing to do except to foment counter-revolution. The other is Zionism and supporters of capitalism, imperialism and noncapitalist imperialism and world politics. In the third place come the clippings of the above two, governments or groups from near and far away, who have always opposed us in any movement and revolution. The late Dr Mossadeq had a blanket term for them: Tudeh-Nafti [oil motivated members of the Tudeh Party]. Then there are the more familiar but disturbing groups.

Now I would like to talk about the above-mentioned groups one by one, what they gain and what is the result of their instigations and conspiracies and the plots they hatch. From the shah and his mercenary elements and agents inside Iran or on the other side of the border or outside what is iniiated, in short, is an immature dream emanating from a weak mind. This person, despite sitting on the throne of power and having all the military forces like the army, the security forces and SAVAK under his command, controlling the wealth of the country and the policies followed by the country, gradually confronted these people and their revolutionary spirit, people who accept martyrdom without any regrets, and also the disloyalty of a great number of employees and military personnel and even those close to him, so he had to run away. Now, how can such a person in his weak mind think that, if there is a coup d'etat allowing him to return, he will be able to stay in this country for one day even, this country where people will sacrifice their last breath and their last drop of blood and will not go under his command a second time, especially in the situation and under conditions where he does not control the military organization and the army and the forces of power, or the government, or the propaganda system and other things. This is nothing but an illegal act of madness and a result of sheer revenge-seeking and spite. The same is true of these foreign politicians, Israeli or non-Israeli, colonialists and imperialists and others, who are counting on the return of the shah or bringing another dictatorship to power by which they can have the same interests the same plundering and the other things they used to do. By the same token, these too, are immature dreams, and on the contrary, when in a region there is disturbance, confusion and lack of security, the possibility of them achieving their aims and interests will be less than if there was a well established, dominant and nonalined government, a correct government, a democratic, republican government which would deal with them and establish friendly relations within logical limits and with mutual respect. They can expect better, but legal, results in the second case.

The same applies to those groups with foreign dependencies or governments, which I call clippings. They, too, have nothing to do but relieve their inhibitions or find an arena for their evil intentions and misappropriations; and if they make a bonfire in our country with their conspiracies, the smoke will hurt their own eyes.

Those familiar antinational and anti-Islamic groups who claim to defend freedom, democracy and support the interests of the masses and security; let us assume they have good intentions, and they really do support freedom and democracy while at the same time being socialist or Marxist, and they are not the mercenaries and agents trained and under the command of the foreign enemies of Iran. They, too, with the disturbances and problems and anxietites they create and the confusion, sabotage and subversion which takes place, if it were anything like the opposition demonstrated by leftist parties or the opposition party against the government in democratic countries, with publicity campaigns, presentation of candidates, and toward their coming to power, it would be acceptable. They could come and take over the government. If they enjoyed the support of the majority of the people, they could act on their plans, which would inevitably follow their own principles. But they are not doing that here; they are commiting acts of sabotage and subversion. They are trying to create confusion and shake the foundations of the government.

What will the result be for them? If a dictatorship or an antinational and anti-Islamic Government takes over, they will be the first to suffer. They can live and, within logical limits, have publicity campaigns and be much more active in a national, Islamic, legal and humanitarian system. If what they claim is true and they intend to serve the country, they can speak out and get results. But if we say that, they have other plans, and what they do--the sabotage all over the country and this opposition and uncalled-for criticism and disturbances which prevent the government and the executive power from carrying out their duties and which cause breakdowns in their work--then we have to say that this is either because of ignorance and oversight or their evil intentions, and they are, necessarily, on the side of counterrevolution.

There is another slant to the problem: persons and groups who are basically progovernment but who disrupt the government. They are divided and varied--that is, they range from young students to older people and different groups--they seem to be separated from each other but act according to the same plan, following the same tune. Their actions aim mostly at creating confusion, organizing gatherings, demonstrations and strikes and staging sit-ins and sometimes threats. For example, they disturb the examination centers where examinations have been canceled because of cheating or for other reasons by the Ministry of Education, and organize demonstrations and processions. Students of some colleges and universities come and stage sit-ins in ministries and air their demands, and by the force of their sit-in or gathering they want their demands fulfilled and accepted. They do not accept reason. When we answer them and discuss their demands with them or their representatives, telling them that their demands are not practicable and not right, or even if they are practicable and right, time is needed to act upon them, they insist that their demands should be fulfilled and resort to sit-ins and disturbing and stopping the work of offices and organizations.

There are the technical experts in our offices and organizations who are satisfied with their salaries but who say that such-and-such a group is paid so much more than us, so we will stop working until we are paid the same. Truck owners or drivers who are unemployed, or because the country's economy is not back to work properly yet and commerce and transport are lax, exert pressure, cause disturbances and stage sit-ins in different ministries and offices demanding the trucks belonging to the government be given to them free of charge. They cannot provide any sort of guarantee and do not accept any logic. They resort to gatherings, staging sit-ins and threats.

Or, the government employees use the purging of the system and the change in some of the positions of directors and chairmen as an excuse, resort to gatherings, demonstrations, and sit-ins and threats. Or in the air force, the technicians who had shown so much interest, harmony and cooperation and self-sacrifice at the beginning of the revolution, for different reasons and different demands--which I will not go into now, such as wanting or not wanting to be promoted, or problems of directorships or councils, albeit in the interests of the government or not--they all resort to stopping work or demonstrations or staging sit-ins or organization street demonstrations. Or workers in factories or workshops who were recently granted unprecedented help and services by the Ministry of Labor by the specification of a minimum wage, instead of being happy that in a country where many families in its remote regions and areas do not have bread, water, electricity or welfare and where they have to eat grass, the workers of Iran have a specified minimum wage. I have heard whispers that in many factories they have started to protest and find fault, saying that this is not enough for us, and although those who had much more than the minimum provisions, have had salary raises, they ask why in the neighboring factory or other places city workers are paid more and we have to have the same. Or other demands which might be reasonable, some of them, but they are mostly in the form of excuses, fault finding and subversion.

Well, some time ago we issued an announcement which was published in one of the newspapers that all those who strike and disrupt work should know that the government is determined not to be intimidated by force, pressure and injustice. We shall not submit to force and injustice. This is why we made the announcement. What I should add now are the reasons why we do not accept some of their demands.

Briefly, one reason is that what they say is unfair and unjust. Even if they are not unfair and unjust as far as those who put forward the claims are concerned, they have bad effects and results for other groups, because the rights of other groups will be trampled under foot, or what they demand requires a great deal of expense. Because the government cannot act on an individual basis; the government is faced not only with one individual or group with special demands. If the government reached a decision concerning an individual or a group and if it performed a favor or granted help, it should do the same for the whole country. If the generalization of the same favor to the whole country is beyond the capacity and the budget of the country, obviously we will not be able to do such a thing.

There are some requests which should be acted upon on a general and national basis, but it is still not prepared and provided, and requires time. In addition, some requests are basically wrong. There were some people who had given a guarantee and a pledge. As a result of that guarantee they were given some special assistance or favor. Now they say that their guarantee should be ignored. Why? The government has provided you with some special facilities, has given you certain benefits. Why should it now disregard your pledges? If we agreed to provide some facilities, if we decided not to charge them for electricity or water, do not collect certain rates and taxes. Now if they do not pay the interest on the money they have borrowed, which they have agreed upon and have pledged, what will be the result? The result will be that the government's income will be much less than it is at the moment. It will not be able to fulfil other demands or carry out its projects and pledges. What are the consequences of all this? Those groups who do not fulfil their pledges will also be the losers; because, first of all, the government is not prepared to submit to force and pressure and, secondly, the result of their actions is the closure of departments.

For instance, water will be cut off, electricity will be cut off, and the railway will be cut off. Similar to the same sabotage activities which they carried out in the south, the pipes will burst, the bridges will fall down. What will be the end result of all this? The final result will be that the country will be paralyzed and will come to a standstill. You will not achieve anything. Therefore, such actions, such strikes, such sit-ins, such pressures in the final analysis are nothing but the formation of a fifth column for the enemy and for the counterrevolutionaries. These actions will only assist our enemies. It is just like the fifth columns which, during the war, foreign countries organize in a hostile country in order to cause disruption and difficulty from within so that the government in power will not be able to carry out its duties and perform the things which are necessary, and be able to expel the threats, attacks and dangers which are threatening the country on its borders.

I announce firmly and earnestly that even if all these actions, conspiracies and incitements are not knowingly manufactured by the enemies and counterrevolutionaries, at least in practice they have the same result and are definitely harmful to the revolution. I demand from the country, the nation, the people and everybody to prevent as much as they can such actions and pressures, whether in the form of press criticism and propoganda, or in the form of sit-ins and strikes or demonstrations. If the people have a sense of responsibility, they should cooperate with us for the sake of the country and the nation.

On the surface, such actions are attacks against the government, as are demands from the government or pressure on it after it has done everything within its power, strength, capacity and resources. The Council of Ministers and all members of the government, whether willingly or unwillingly, have devoted themselves night and day to their tasks and are trying to do everything within their power and ability. To put pressure on them, to make life difficult for them, or to prevent them from carrying out their work, as I said before, is an antirevolutionary action and will cause the defeat of the victorious Iranian revolution.

Christopher Columbus once gave a promise to the King of Spain and to his colleagues and the sailors who had volunteered for his voyage and had said: I will take you to India. He was mistaken in his calculations. But the present government is quite different. We have not gone to the king or to anyone else to request them to give us certian positions and power so that we can perform something. On the contrary, the nation sent for us. When I accepted this responsibility, I can say with absolute certainty that none of the ministers, none of the deputy ministers, and none of this large number of people whom we appointed to various posts and whom we have requested to perform certain duties--without exception, not one of them made such a request to come to power and accept a responsible position. We have searched for them and have begged them to accept their positions.

In my first lecture at the University of Tehran, at a time when the ministers were still not appointed, in my very first television address and in all my television messages I have constantly said that we cannot travel in one night a road that requires 100 years. I have constantly said that the revolution is still not complete. Of course, this was also said by the leader of the revolution, the imam, and other people have also said this. For a long time we should put up with deprivation, with difficulties, with hardships. Of course, we shall succeed. We shall definitely attain our goals, because God is with us, but it does not mean that all our work is over.

I have repeatedly said that our means are limited. We have inherited a government and an establishment that was falling apart, disintegrating. We do not have the necessary means.

When did we promise to perform all your requests and your demands? How often have I said that I, my colleagues and others have a thousand faults, defects and shortcomings? I even said that the secret of victory is if the people are not dissatisfied or discontented. In order for them not to become dissatisfied or discontented, and not lose heart, it is necessary that we openly and sincerely admit and accept the shortcomings, the defects, the difficulties and the vices. If we do not accept these, we will definitely grow dissatisfied and will make others dissatisfied. We never made a promise like that of Christopher Columbus. All that we have said is that we shall eventually attain our goals. It is not only this government--the Provisional Government of the Islamic Republic--that has recommended patience, forbearance and steadfastness.

My aim is in no way to make the problems bigger than they are and frighten the people. On the contrary, the aim is to know the problems as they are, and to know ourselves as we are. This is why, at the end, I wish to renew my pledge to you, the Iranian nation.

I am sorry, I forgot to say something. Even those groups who are 100 percent in agreement with the revolution, and who are even in the first rank of the revolution and have a great share in the revolution, even they are doing things (?which are contrary to the interest of the revolution). All this fanaticism and monopolization, about the country and the revolution belonging to them, and some reactionary thinking and condemnations of all those who are different from them, all this is very wrong and is contrary to truth, to Islam and to the revolution.

They seem to be ignoring an obvious fact. That in all movements and revolutions there are normally three groups. Two of these groups are small in number. One is the frontline, pure, revolutionary and struggling group. The other is the opposition group which is against the movement and the revolution. Both of these groups are in a minority as far as their numbers are concerned. But, of course it is true "How often a small group becomes victorious over a large group by the will of God." [verse from the Koran]

In the middle, there are a large number of people and, depending which side they lean toward, the revolution or the movement will move in the same direction also. Fortunately, right from the start, in the Iranian revolution a large number of people, who constitute the majority of the inhabitants of the country and who are everywhere and in all classes, sided with the revolution. They took part in marches, they even joined in shouting "God is the greatest;" they took part in strikes and in many other forms of struggle. To expel or dismiss this group because it was not as extreme or as sincere as us, to push this group with our own hands and tongues into the opposition camp is an anti-revolutionary act and should not be done. The country does not belong exclusively to any particular group. Likewise, God does not belong to any exclusive group. This was the claim which the Jews used to make who believed that God belonged only to them and that the Earth belonged to them. We should not do the same.

Of course, we should fight those who are evil, who are mischievous, who are our enemies, those who indulge in intrigues and who confront us and fight with us and are intent on the destruction of our lives and the destruction of the revolution. However, as regards those who have been faithful, who have supported us, who have been in our favor and who also believe in the revolution even if they are not as hot or as committed as some other people, those who believe in freedom and are on the side of the nation and are part of the nation, we should not do something which will, ultimately, benefit the counterrevolutionaries and the enemies who, on every side, have risen against us. This is what I wanted to say I forgot to say.

Finally, I want all of us to renew our pledge to each other. The government will show sincerity and service to the utmost of its ability; and you should also show faithfulness, awareness and cooperation. You should give the government sufficient time so that it can carry out its programs. So far, you have come along with us. Fortunately, we have been successful in carrying out the mission that, initially, the leader of the revolution entrusted to us--namely, to form a government, to put the government machinery into operation and to enable the vast wheels of the economy to turn.

Two days ago, a few days ago, you noticed that the situation for the Bank Melli was much better than before, and the Bank Melli is the pulse of the economic life of the country and reflects the trust that the people have in the government. The situation in the bank, compared to other similar months, has been much better and it is getting better month by month. Our industry, our banks, our agriculture and other sectors have all improved and are progressing further; particularily, the the most important parts of the government's program, which were the holding of the referendum and the drafting of the constitution, have been carried out successfully. I hope, God willing, the holding of the election for the council of experts to investigate the constitution and, later, the referendum will also be carried out so that we shall have performed the basic goals and duties which were entrusted to us.

I request the nation, the compatriots and the comrades-in-arms, whether they are for us or against us--and I said that even the interests of those who are against us demands that this revolution will succeed as soon as possible in the best way--I request them that in the same way that you have come along with us so far, you will also take a few more steps with us, will be with us for the next couple of months so that we can complete our tasks. Then, in the elections, you can elect the government that you like and which will receive the votes of the majlis. That government and which will do all that you desire. Don't expect from us more than is within our power and time, and which is not in your own interest. Don't try to cause obstacles for this government which has no other intention but to serve the nation. The government will renew the pledge to show sincerity and service to the utmost of its ability; and you should give us sufficient time and should show us faithfulness, steadfastness and cooperation. In that case, we shall definitely become victorious.

Once again, I read the verse which many people include in their daily prayers. I recommend that everybody read this verse in their daily prayers: "Lord, grant us patience, make firm our steps and assist us and make us victorious over the infidels." [Koranic verse] Goodbye.

POLITICAL PARTIES ANNOUNCE WITHDRAWAL FROM ELECTIONS

LD021756 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Aug 79 LD

[Text] The Islamic Republic Party of the Muslim masses of Iran announced today in a statement that it will not take part in the elections for the council of experts, which will examine the constitution. The Islamic Republic Party blamed existing limitations on the elections for the examining council for its withdrawal.

According to PARS, the National Front Party of Iran also has announced its withdrawal from the elections for the examining council of the constitution. The National Front announced that the destruction of its publicity posters and the lack of freedom of action for some groups and parties are the reasons for its withdrawal.

The Workers Socialist Party has announced that because of the government's refusal to postpone the elections for the examining council, it will not participate in the elections. The Iran Emruz Political Party announced in a statement today that it will not take part in the elections because of their undemocratic nature.

'Democratic Nature' of Election Defended

ID021206 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 2 Aug 79 ID

[Radio correspondent Mahmud Zinati's telephone interview with Interior Minister Hashem Sabbaghian on 2 August-recorded]

[Text] [Question] Could you tell us when the teams who will supervise the election to the council of experts to ratify the new Iranian constitution will get to work and, in light of protests by certain groups at the composition of the members of the team of supervisers, and the explanations you gave in a previous interview, could you provide further information?

[Answer] As we have told all the Iranian people with regard to issues raised in the past, members of the team of supervisers, who have now been elected from various electoral regions, members of the Central Supervisory Committee, who had been invited from among 35 people by the Executive Committee for the Tehran election, have been elected freely and by secret ballot. [sentence as heard] The same has been repeated in all provincial centers. Members of the supervisory committee are completing final stages of their preparations today, and at 0600 tomorrow, when the voting starts--in fact before 0600--all the members of the supervisory committees will be ready at polling centers.

[Question] Bearing in mind that in the March referendum for an Islamic republic the voting took 2 days to complete, do you think 1 day will be enough for tomorrow's election?

[Answer] According to statistics about the referendum, on the second day of the referendum just over 300,000 votes were registered.

That showed that one day would be enough. In accordance with the election legislative bill itself, the polling stations, which begin their work at 0600, will remain open for as long as the people want to cast their votes. The set time period of 10 hours is only a minimum; but should there be electoral areas where the people still want to vote supervisory members are ready for their votes.

[Question] You are aware that a number of groups for various reasons have boycotted the election in advance or else, over last night and today, have announced the withdrawal of their candidature. What is the government's view and that of the Interior Ministry in this regard.

[Answer] In principle the Interior Ministry, which is responsible for carrying out the election, has exerted its utmost efforts to carry out the election in a calm and democratic atmosphere. To this end, we have done everything necessary. To prove our claim, we invited all the political parties and groups that had fielded candidates and issued them with inspectorate cards so that they may inspect our election throughout the country with the help of these cards, and so that it will be proved beyond a doubt that we are carrying out an exemplary election in the history of the [1906] Constitution. Some 5,160 election inspection cards have been distributed throughout the country, about 2,000 of which are allocated for Tehran. In light of this, we will never accept anyone's allegation that the election is being held in an undemocratic manner or in an undemocratic atmosphere.

Judges Urge Large Turnout

ID021213 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 2 Aug 79 ID

[Text] The Association of Iranian Judges in a statement today called on all the people to participate in the election to elect a council of experts. The statement says in part: We are now facing the most critical moment of our political and social history and are in the process of holding an election for a council of experts to compile a constitution for the Islamic Republic and thus accomplish one of the momentous experiences of contemporary history.

The Association of Iranian Judges hopes that those who undertake this fundamental and heavy responsibility in accordance with the nation's election will be prepared to fulfil this historic mission and approve a brilliant future for our liberated nation with realism, farsightedness, honesty and by looking at things in depth without any particular discrimination. They should bear in mind that the constitution of the Islamic Republic must, in the most profound manner possible and with reliance upon Islamic principles and thinking, secure and guarantee national sovereignty and safeguard individual and social rights and freedoms and the independence of the judiciary.

Army Denies Submitting Candidates

ID021930 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Aug 79 ID

[Text] The joint staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran today informed the Muslim and fighting nation of Iran in a statement that none of the military personnel, including retired Col Asghar Qa'emmaqami, have been offered by the Army of the democratic Republic of Iran as candidates for the council of experts. Military personnel, like their Muslim brothers and sisters and following the valuable guidelines of the leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran, will vote for those who have complete knowledge and awareness.

Khomeyni Urges Voter Participation

ID030848 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 3 Aug 79 ID

[Text] The following announcement has been issued by the leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran, Imam Khomeyni:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful, noble and struggling Iranian nation. The enemies of Islam and the movement have started their poisonous propaganda inside and outside the country and are trying to give the impression that the people have become indifferent about these elections and have become cold and lax. They want to accuse you of turning away from the Islamic Republic. I expect you, the struggling nation, by your common participation, to bring shame on those indulging in such idle talk.

It also has been reported that a number of people have arisen to create disorder in the elections arcund the university where the Friday prayers will be held. The government is dutybound to prevent their activities and the people are duty bound to ignore their propaganda. Dear Muslim nation, you must safeguard Islam and the Islamic country and must rush to the ballot boxes. God's peace and blessings be upon you.

[Signed] Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni, 3 August 1979.

NIOC CHAIRMAN DENIES REDUCTION IN OIL PRODUCTION

ID021806 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Aug 79 ID

[Text] Hasan Nazih, chairman of the board of directors and managing director of the NIOC, in a talk with the PARS, denied a REUTER report on reductions in Iranian oil production and said: Iran's oil production is still approximately 3.7 million barrels per day. REUTER had reported that according to an NIOC official oil production in the Khuzestan region has been reduced to 2.7 million barrels per day.

SHARI'ATMADARI, KHORASAN GOVERNOR, GOLPAYGANI CONFER

ID022021 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Aug 79 ID

[Text] According to a PARS reporter in Mashhad, yesterday afternoon, His Great Eminence Ayatollah Haj Seyyed Kazem Shari'atmadari and His Great Eminence Ayatollah Qomi and Taher Ahmadzadeh, governor general of Khorasan, met with His Great Eminence Ayatollah Golpaygani in his residence and had talks together.

VATICAN AMBASSADOR DENIES STATEMENT ON CHRISTIANS

ID022024 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Aug 79 ID

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has provided PARS with the remarks made by the Vatican ambassador in Tehran concerning a statement attributed to him in the Iranian press this morning. The text of the statement is as follows: Annibale Buganini, Vatican ambassador in Tehran, denied a report published in one of the Tehran newspapers regarding Radio Vatican, quoting him as saying that Christian society in Iran has been severely damaged by the difficult situation in Iran and that they are living under unfavorable conditions. The Vatican ambassador said that publication of such a quotation by him is incorrect and that he never made such remarks.

TABATABA'I SCORES REMARKS MADE BY FRG'S BOELLING

ID022034 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Aug 79 ID

[Text] Sadeq Tabataba'i, deputy prime minister for political affairs and government spokesman, has replied in a PARS interview to remarks made by FRG Government spokesman Klaus Boelling. Klaus Boelling had described the earlier critical comments made by Sadeq Tabataba'i about the hostile reports of the West German press concerning our country and his criticism of West German figures in trying Iranian students as "playing with words."

The Iranian Government spokesman cited examples of very close relationships between some West German officials with Mohammad Reza Pahlavi and his clique in the past and at present and said: We repeatedly have said that the activities of some unidentified individuals in the FRG has absolutely nothing to do with the Iranian Revolutionary Courts; but, apparently, Mr Klaus Boelling has paid no attention to this.

Sadeq Tabataba'i went on: Our nation reacted in a timely and adequate way to the political position of the United States concerning the verdicts of the Revolutionary Courts in Iran, and this fact should be borne in mind.

Sadeq Tabataba'i said: If Mr Klaus Boelling had taken into consideration the remarks of past and present West German politicians concerning Iran and their position on the Islamic revolution of Iran, he would never have said that my comments were "playing with words." Some West German newspapers attack the Iranian Government and nation and the beliefs of our people and indulge in every kind of accusation against us; their contents are mainly contrary to the truth, yet Mr Klaus Boelling, as the spokesman of the FRG, says that criticisms of the West German press reflect the truths concerning Iran. Is not what he says an approval of the contents of the West German press? Will this not lead to a further deterioration of relations between Iran and Germany which Mr Klaus Boelling says he is worried about?

MARIVAN AGREEMENT REPORTEDLY HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED

JN021454 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1415 GMT 2 Aug 79 JN

[Excerpt] Tehran, 2 August--Today the Iranian evening newspapers reported that the agreement reached on the situation in Marivan has not been implemented because the town's inhabitants reject the agreement and insist on returning to their homes.

The agreement reached last night provides for the gradual withdrawal of the Islamic Guards to the areas they came from.

All shops and stores in Marivan and government departments--except for the district commissioner's office and telecommunications department--are still closed. The Provisional Council and Revolutionary Committee in Marivan have denied the accuracy of the statement by the Kordestan governor broadcast last night, announcing that agreement has been reached.

The Marivan district commissioner said that about 100 persons from north of Marivan have submitted proposals to the leader of the government delegation and Deputy Prime Minister Dr Chamran, who refused to accept some of these proposals.

TEHRAN KURDS DEFEND USE OF LANGUAGE, HIT 'INTERVENTION' PLANS

LD021159 Tehran AYANDEGAN in Persian 28 Jul 79 p 12 LD

[Unattributed report: "Association of Kurds Resident in Tehran: Weekly Meeting Held in Open Air"]

[Text] On Thursday afternoon, at the weekly meeting of the association of Kurds resident in Tehran, Saremeddin Sadeq-vaziri spoke about the problems of Kordestan to Kurds living in Tehran. The session was to have been held at the Sharif industrial college, but the association found the doors closed. Association officials discussed the matter with the guards stationed in the college without result. Finally, the meeting was held in the street, and Sadeq-vaziri addressed the association. Several persons who wished to stop it from taking place told Sadeq-vaziri to speak in Persian, not Kurdish.

Sadeq-vaziri said:

"It is our right to speak in our mother-tongue at an assembly attended entirely be Kurds. This important point has been accepted in the draft constitution."

The secretary of the association of Kurds resident in Tehran told the AYANDEGAN correspondent:

"We reserved time last week through the college council, but because entrance examinations were being held it was postponed until next week. Today when we went to the college we found the doors locked, and in spite of goodwill on the part of several members of the komiteh, there were several officials who opposed the meeting or rather "stated their position": Their excuse was that we could not undertake to prevent a disturbance, even though the association of Kurds resident in Tehran has been holding meetings for several months, and these have been well disciplined and peaceful.

Expressing regret that permission was not granted for the meeting to be held at the college, Sadeq-Vaziri began his speech and said:

"A plot is coming into existence which involves a military attack on Kordestan. This at least may be construed from what was said by Brigadier General Farbod and Ibrahim Yunesi, retired governor general of Kordestan. They said that they were opposed to army intervention in internal matters, for which reason they resigned."

He added: "It is amazing that, at a time when the Kurdish people are everywhere demonstrating their desire for peace, government agencies should with spiteful propaganda against the Kurdish people be preparing the ground for military clashes. This is certainly to the benefit neither of the government nor of the nation. "We are ready for any plot and we shall react; we have never sought a fight, but the Kurdish people have never been and will never be afraid of tanks and artillery."

At the end of his speech, he asked all liberal forces not to sit in silence in the face of plots to drag Kordestan into bloodshed, but to start speaking out.

FORMER SAVAK OPERATIONS CHIEF SENTENCED IN MAHABAD

LD021254 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 2 Aug 79 LD

[Text] According to our correspondent, the Mahabad Islamic Revolutionary Court has sentenced to death Ahmad Khodaparast, leader of the dissolved SAVAK's operations and officer in charge of investigation and torture in the former SAVAK departments in Mahabad and Jashhad, for murder.

'ZIONIST AGENT' ORDERED TO APPEAR FOR INVESTIGATION

LD021544 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 2 Aug 79 LD

[Text] The following announcement was issued by the office of the prosecutor of the Islamic revolution in Urumiyeh:

Musa Sina, one of the well-known agents of international Zionism in Urumiyeh and who, according to information we have received, during the usurping Pahlavi regime sent vast sums out of our country to Israel to assist with the evil intentions of that usurping and anti-people government, is warned that within 1 week at the latest from today he should report to the prosecutor's office of the Islamic revolution in Urumiyeh so that the accusations leveled against him may be investigated. Otherwise, the court will be requested to try him in his absence and issue its religious verdict on him.

NVOI URGES PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF KURDISH PROBLEM

TA022058 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 2 Aug 79 TA

[Unattributed commentary: "The Problem of Kordestan Should Be Resolved Through Peaceful Means"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Reports arriving from Kordestan have increased the anxiety of our homeland's people.

The reason for this anxiety is not only that subversive groups and mercenaries of the former regime today are [words indistinct] attempting to disturb the situation more than ever. In this province, remnants of the former regime hand in hand with Kurdish feudalists are fanning the flames of war and fratricide. Unfortunately, certain uninformed individuals also have become the [word indistinct] of the will of these counterrevolutionary elements and knowingly or unknowingly participate in the (?plans) of the nation's enemies, and thus, the peaceful solution of the Kurdish problem is confronted with difficulties.

Undoubtedly, (?this act) has aroused the concern of our homeland's people. Mercenary elements of the former regime in Kordestan incite our Muslim brothers against each other and shed the blood of innocent people. Observers allude to this when stating that the provisional government of Mr Bazargan should take immediate and urgent measures to prevent the continuation of tension and also clashes, bloodshed and fratricide. Unfortunately, although certain circles have no interest in prolonging this unpleasant situation, instead of wise and just solutions, they claim the [word indistinct] people of Kordestan have certain attributes which elements and officials of the satanic regime continuously repeated in the past.

It is an indisputable fact that the Kurdish people possess a language, customs, traditions and national culture of their own and want, through the aegis of the revolution's victory and as a result of the expulsion of the former satanic and anti-people regime, to enjoy its national rights now.

In the past, the Kurdish people struggled for a long time in order to achieve these indisputable rights and the right to exercise the principle of self-rule in the framework of Iran's territorial integrity. The victory of the Iranian nation's revolution held out the promise to the people of Kordestan that finally after those many sacrifices and self-sacrifice they will attain their natural rights. Fortunately, the leader of the Iranian revolution also repeatedly declared that they will recognize the national rights of all ethnic minorities residing in our vast land. Iran, including the people of Kordestan, and this issue will be (?confirmed) in the constitution of the islamic republic of Iran.

Unfortunately, government authorities do not act decisively as is essential and necessary to implement these [words indistinct] and thus, have given the enemies of the Iranian revolution, including the enemies of the Kurdish masses, the opportunity to muddy the water, and by taking cowardly advantage of the pure national feelings of the patriotic Kurds, to create turmoil and to implement their evil schemes.

It is appropriate in this special and important issue that the government take immediate and practical measures and thus the road for the conspirators and opportunists be cut. The government should also very decisively draw the attention of all the responsible individuals, who by leveling unfair charges--such as separatism--against the Kurds attempt to create discord among the forces faithful and loyal to the revolution--with the consequences this wrong and cowardly behavior will entail--and prevent hostile propaganda against our Kurdish brothers whether in the press or in other mass media.

The trademark of separatism does not fit the people of Kordestan because the patriotic people of Kordestan have proved in practice that they made self-sacrifices on the path of Iran's independence and territorial integrity. The Kurdish masses like all the people of Iran participated in the revolution and sacrificed to achieve it.

Now that the gains of the revolution has been secured and the construction of a free independent and democratic Iran has been placed on the agenda of the Iranian nation, it is necessary that all the forces [word indistinct] the unity of the people and the liberated masses of our homeland. In the triumph of the revolution, unity of action and expression of all the people of Iran is fundamental. Today too, more than ever, unity is vital and important for our country. Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Iranian revolution, always emphasizes the necessity of continuously strengthening the unity and oneness for safeguarding the gains of the revolution. On this path, by taking practical measures to secure the demands of all the Iranian nation, including the legitimate demands of ethnic minorities residing in Iran, conditions and the basis must be provided so that this unity--the unity among all the revolutionary forces, among all the masses residing in Iran--strengthens and flourishes. The Kurdish masses demand autonomy in the framework of a free and democratic Iran, in the framework of the Islamic Republic, which is their undeniable right.

With political insight and wisdom, with negotiations and discussions, the path must be cleared for resolving the issue which has arisen in Kordestan. The interests of the realm and Iranian nation dictate that the government, or the national and democratic forces, or the ethnic minorities, must exert all their efforts in this direction, because it is only through peaceful means that these vital and [word indistinct] issues can be resolved.

PRIME MINISTER TO ATTEND HAVANA NONALINED SUMMIT

BK021253 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 2 Aug 79 BK

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Charan Singh, will be attending the nonalined summit at Havana, Cuba. The summit opens on the 3rd of next month.

LAW MINISTER KHANNA SUBMITS RESIGNATION

BK030743 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 3 Aug 79 BK

[Text] The law minister, Mr H.R. Khanna, has submitted his resignation from the union Cabinet. He sent his letter of resignation yesterday morning. He told the AIR [All-India Radio] correspondent that he decided to resign, because he felt he is not fit for the rough and tumble of current politics. Mr Khanna said he will release the text of his letter when his resignation is officially announced. This, he said, will explain the reasons for his resignation.

Khanna Replacement

BK030911 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 3 Aug 79 BK

[Text] It is known that Mr S.N. Kacker, former solicitor general of India, is being appointed law minister in place of Mr H. R. Khanna who has resigned. AIR's [All-India Radio] correspondent understands that Mr Kacker is being sworn in later this afternoon.

Mr Khanna told our correspondent that he decided to resign, because he felt he is not fit for the rough and tumble of current politics.

FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE IS CONSENSUS CANDIDATE FOR OFFICE

BK021644 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Aug 79 BK

[Text] A former chief justice of India, Mr Hidayatullah, is the consensus candidate for the vice president's office. This was decided at a meeting which the prime minister, Mr Charan Singh had with leaders of various parties in New Delhi this evening. Those who attended the meeting were the leader of the opposition in the Lok Sabha, Mr Jagjivan Ram; the Congress-I leader in the Lok Sabha, Mr C.M. Stephen; Mr Yogendra Sharma of the CPI [Communist Party of India]; Mr Dadi Bhai Desai; Mr N.D. Patil of the PWP [Peasants and Workers Party]; and Mr J.S. Talwandi and Mr G.S. Kowra of the Akali Dal.

The deputy prime minister, Mr Chavan, the the steel minister, Mr Biju Patnaik, were present at the meeting.

The CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist], the RSP [Revolutionary Socialist Party], the AIadmk [All-India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazagham] were not represented at the meeting.

The election of the vice president is to be held on the 27th of this month.

The leader of the opposition, Mr Jagjivan Ram, has said that it is a very good development that a consensus has been evolved on the name of the candidate for the vice president's office. Talking to newsmen in New Delhi today he said it is a specially welcome step at a time when there is so much of confrontation among various parties.

CHARAN SINGH TESTIFIES IN MURDER ATTEMPT CASE

BK030919 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 3 Aug 79 BK

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Charan Singh, today deposed in the sessions court of Delhi that the accused (Jaynarayan) had attempted a frontal attack on him with a sharp edged weapon in the back lawns of his residence on the 24th of December last year. Identifying the 26 year-old accused from Bihar who was standing in the dock, Mr Charan Singh, as a prosecution witness, said (Jaynarayan), after pulling out the sharp edged weapon from a bag slung on his shoulder, murmered in Hindi: "I want to finish today the rising son of the Janata Party." Mr Charan Singh deposed for about 75 minutes in the court of the additional sessions' judge, Mr V.S. Agarwal, who is trying (Jaynarayan) on charges of criminal treaspass and attempt to murder.

During his cross-examination, Mr Charan Singh refuted the defense assertion that this case is falsely instituted to gain publicity for political purposes.

INDIRA GANDHI APPEARS BEFORE SPECIAL COURT, GRANTED BAIL

BK020939 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Aug 79 BK

[Text] Mrs Indira Gandhi today appeared before the special court of Mr Justice Mohinder Joshi in New Delhi in connection with the jeep scandal case. She was granted bail for 15,000 rupees and a surity of like amount. Mrs Gandhi is accused along with five others of conspiring to procure 139 jeeps without payment for electioneering in 1977. The court fixed the 13th of this month for the next hearing.

Over 900 supporters of Mrs Gandhi courted arrest outside the premises of the special court. Thdse include the Congress-I general secretary, Mr Buta Singh and Mr Ramanand Yadav, MP. They were demonstrating outside Patiala house in violation of the prohibitory orders in force around that area. The demonstrators were raising slogans demanding scrapping of the special courst and withdrawal of all cases against their leader.

SRI LANKA

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED WITH YAR

OW021750 Hong Kong AFP in English 1735 GMT 2 Aug 79 OW

[Text] Colombo, Aug 2 (AFP)--The Governments of Sri Lanka and the Yemen Arab Republic have established diplomatic relations between their two countries at the ambassadorial level with concurrent accredidation from Abu Dhabi yesterday, the Foreign Ministry announced.